



No 3,711

## THE INDEPENDENT

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 1998

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## Hague takes on his euro critics

IN HIS MOST decisive act since becoming Tory leader, William Hague announced yesterday that the party's 300,000 members would be balloted later this month on the single European currency, saying the issue had "debilitated and divided our party for too long".

But pro-European Tories immediately vowed to continue their campaign for Britain to join the single currency, whatever the outcome of the ballot.

A decisive majority is expected to support Mr Hague's policy of opposing British membership in this Parliament and the next. The result will be an-

BY ANDREW GRICE  
Political Editor

ounced on the eve of next month's Tory conference, which had looked certain to be overshadowed by the party's civil war over Europe. The leadership feared a plot to hijack the event by pro-Europeans, who said last night that the referendum "smacked of panic".

Although Mr Hague's surprise move may ensure a less troublesome week in Bournemouth, his hopes of drawing a line under the issue that has bedevilled his party were dashed

when Kenneth Clarke, champion of the Tory Eurosceptics, made clear he would not be muzzled.

"My view of the national interest will not be changed by the result of a snap vote of party activists," said the former chancellor. "We should not join now but, if the single currency succeeds, we should stand prepared to join it as and when it is in our interest to do so."

Mr Clarke snubbed Mr Hague's offer to allow the pro-Europeans to put their case in a mailshot to party members. In an attempt to undermine the impact of the expected result,

Mr Clarke said he would not campaign before the ballot - adding that any leader was bound to win a good majority in such a vote of confidence.

However, Mr Hague insisted: "As long as our party is distracted by the endless debates on the single currency, we will always have one hand tied behind our back as we fight this Government."

He said the issue was one of the largest contributors to last year's crushing general election defeat, and the party still suffered from continuous media reports of divisions. Its members were "sick and tired"



of the way different internal groups had tried to "pull policy one way or the other".

Denying that he was making a plea for unity, Mr Hague de-

clared: "I believe that unity comes through leading, not pleading. I believe it comes through consistency, through clarity, through certainty."

Last night, close allies likened Mr Hague's move to the decisive leadership shown by Margaret Thatcher as prime minister and to Tony Blair's decision to scrap Clause IV in 1994. "The crucial thing is that they were strong leaders and people knew clearly where the party stood, even though a minority opposed them," one senior Tory said. "We lost that clarity under John Major because the divisions on Europe

went right up to the cabinet."

Mr Hague said all front-benchers would have to support his policy during the referendum campaign or face the sack, but MPs would not lose the party whip if they supported the single currency in Parliament. "It is not about driving people out of the party," he said.

This freedom was seized on by Mr Clarke and other pro-Europeans, who vowed to continue to state that Britain should join the single currency in the next Parliament, if it was in the national interest.

Stephen Dorrell, a former cabinet minister, said: "Frankly,

I don't think this will resolve anything because these are important issues of principle."

Ian Taylor, who resigned from the Tory front bench last autumn over the party's policy on Europe, warned: "This might appear to boost William Hague's leadership and the party will obviously endorse the leader."

"But since the single currency issue will be determined by events beyond his control, it will not boost his leadership as far as the country as a whole is concerned."

Leading article, Review, page 3

## Scientists demand BSE tests for sheep

THOUSANDS OF sheep are to be tested for "mad cow" disease under recommendations to be considered by senior government advisers who are concerned about the possibility of BSE passing from cattle to sheep.

An intensive effort to try to assess the scale of the problem will be discussed at a meeting later this month of a committee of experts who have been given the responsibility of investigating the likely risk to human health.

Up to now only nine sheep out of an adult breeding flock of more than 20 million animals have been tested for BSE and scientists are worried that not enough is being done to see whether the disease was passed to sheep during the 1980s when they were fed the remains of BSE-infected cattle.

Scientists have known for some time that there is more than a theoretical risk of BSE infecting sheep. Experiments have shown that sheep fed on material from BSE-infected cattle can develop the disease and that although the symptoms are similar to scrapie - a natural disease of sheep - laboratory tests show the infective agent is identical to BSE.

The concern is that sheep farmers may not have noticed BSE in their flocks because it looks so much like scrapie, yet BSE is now known to be the cause of new variant CJD in humans, which has so far affected 27 people.

The issue was raised yesterday by Professor Jeffrey

BY STEVE CONNOR  
Science Editor

Almond, of Reading University and a member of the Government's Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (Seac), who is to lead the investigation into the risk of BSE passing to sheep.

"I think there is a distinct possibility that BSE is out there in the sheep population... I think if we found BSE in sheep it would be a national emergency and I think politicians would have to think very hard about what the appropriate response would be," he said.

The search for BSE in sheep has been hampered by the lack of a simple, cheap test to distinguish it from scrapie. At present the only test involves injecting pieces of sheep brain into different strains of laboratory mice to see whether they develop BSE - a process that can take two years or more.

However, Seac members believe it is time for the Government to spend what could amount to millions of pounds in testing several thousand adult sheep because of continuing concern that BSE in sheep may, like scrapie, be passed from one animal to another.

The plan would involve surveying a representative sample of adult sheep from across the country and sending brain material to the Neuropathogenesis Unit in Edinburgh, the Central Veterinary Laboratory in Weybridge or the Institute of Animal Health in Compton.

"National emergency", page 3



Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, inspects the £40bn Eurofighter combat aircraft at the Farnborough Air Show yesterday

Brian Harris

## 'People will burn Russia down' says rejected PM

BORIS YELTSIN faces one of the most difficult decisions of his turbulent career today - whether to end the two-week political limbo in his unstable and suffering country by producing another candidate for prime minister or to carry on battling with parliament.

Smarting after another defeat at the hands of the State Duma, which yesterday refused for a second time to confirm Viktor Chernomyrdin as premier, the President must now decide whether he can afford to waste more time with-

BY PHIL REEVES  
in Moscow

out a government while the country slumps further into economic misery.

Despite an evaporating roulette and emptying shelves nationwide, even in wealthy Moscow, the Duma decided to take its confidence in the Kremlin down to the wire, by rejecting Mr Chernomyrdin by a decisive 273-138 votes.

In doing so, the Duma ignored pleas by Mr Cher-

nomyrdin to act quickly before the situation worsens. "Only in Indonesia did they reach the point where they burnt down the entire country," he told deputies just before the vote.

"They burnt down the whole country. That is where we are headed. That is what you are appealing for. That is where you want us to go."

Last night, presidential sources hinted that the President would resubmit Mr Chernomyrdin for a third, final vote. That may be rhetoric. He may be persuaded to call a truce with

his opponents, who argue that the former Gazprom boss has been tainted by six painful years as premier, a period marked by massive corruption, a withering economy and worsening living standards. If he does, Mr Yeltsin will offer a compromise candidate, reversing an early announcement that he "insists" Mr Chernomyrdin should head his government.

The liberal Yabloko party came out in favour of Yevgeny Primakov, 68, Russia's experienced Foreign Minister.

At the edge, page 11

## Global alert for undetectable black cocaine

COLOMBIAN DRUG smugglers have tried most tricks to get their product out of the country. They have mixed it into coffee sacks, dissolved it in bottles of whisky and shampoo, paid couriers to swallow it in plastic bags for later excretion, even encouraged women to hide it in their private parts.

Now, Colombian police are faced with a new smuggling gambit, the use of "coca negra", or black cocaine. Typically, the

BY PHIL DAVISON  
Latin America Correspondent

mixture is made up of pure cocaine (40 per cent) with cobalt and ferric chloride, which is said to make the lucrative drug undetectable even by highly trained sniffer dogs.

Colombian police seized their first shipment of black cocaine last May - more than 250lb in two containers, bound for Italy from El Dorado airport in

Bogota. Documented as bubble-jet printer cartridges, the containers passed the police dogs unnoticed and the drugs were uncovered only because police were already suspicious of the Colombian exporters.

Black cocaine is transformed back to the familiar white powder by being passed through solvents such as acetone or ether. It has recently been found in police raids in Germany, the Netherlands and

Albania, all in packages originating from the same exporters, a Colombian police spokesman said.

Klaus Nyholm, the director of the United Nations drug control programme in Colombia, said his office had alerted the country's police a few months earlier to watch out for the black cocaine after UN officials in Asia found heroin smugglers using a similar technique.

"We had heard reports of it

but I never really thought black cocaine existed," Colombia's police chief, Roso Jose Serrano, said. "What this shows is that, for good or bad, Colombians have a boundless imagination."

The Brussels-based Customs Co-operation Council put out an alert for black cocaine to member countries several months ago and, although the shipments seem to pass by the sniffer dogs, customs agents are confident that the latest

ruse is just a temporary advantage by the smugglers.

"Stopping drugs is also about intelligence work and risk assessment," said Douglas Tweddie, head of enforcement at the council. "And dogs are of limited use anyway because their noses get saturated quickly. What this shows is how innovative the drug smugglers are, but we have already alerted our network and hope to prevent it becoming a problem."

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## British smoking deaths halved

Britain has led the world by halving smoking-related deaths in the past 25 years, mirroring a drop in tobacco consumption, according to new research. **Page 8**

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## Second crash black box located

The Canadian navy is confident it has detected the signal from Swissair flight 111's second black box, the cockpit voice recorder.

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## PAGES 12 - 17

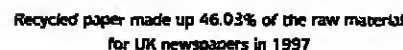
**Gordon Brown has bowed to pressure from the oil industry and dropped plans to raise up to £3bn by tightening the North Sea tax regime.** **Page 12**

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## Ince defends behaviour abroad

## Rupert Cornwell

'Kosovo is merely proving anew what Bosnia long since proved - that the only language Mr Milosevic understands is the imminent or actual use of force.' Page 5

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 24

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### Ben Lucas: Advice on union legislation

**The Prime Minister's wife, Cherie Booth, patron of Breast Cancer Care, launching a national campaign to 'Be enlightened not frightened' in London yesterday John Voo**

Mr Park replied: "Yes - in bed." He added after a pause "Alive and well"

**News Analysis, page 13**

Brussels	c	19 66	Jakarta	f	34 93	New Orleans	s	24 93	Osaka	c	29 49
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			Karachi	f	32 90	Yokohama	f	19 66	Worms	c	19 66

**WEATHER EXPERTS** are hoping to discover how sea currents may cause hurricanes and tornadoes. Research from 300 sources around the world over the past eight years could provide the key to how changes in sea level, wind strength and water temperature affect climate. Dr John Gould, who heads the World Ocean Circulation Experiments project, told a science conference in Wales yesterday that the team's findings could prevent natural disasters.



الجمعة ١٠ سبتمبر ١٩٩٨

# 'If we found BSE in sheep it would be a national emergency'. Official.

BY STEVE CONNOR  
Science Editor

THE GOVERNMENT has launched a damage limitation exercise to quell fears over the possibility that British sheep might have become infected with BSE.

Government press officers have been issued with a set of 16 questions and answers to rebut claims that British lamb is unsafe to eat, and that not enough is being done to assess the risk of BSE entering the sheep population.

Such is the concern about another food scare that Government officials planned their rebuttal campaign last week when they became aware of a forthcoming article in the journal *Nature* which highlighted scientific fears over BSE in sheep.

A "restricted" memorandum issued last Wednesday by officials in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food warned other Whitehall departments to be on the alert for reaction to the *Nature* piece, and in particular criticism from Sheila McKee, head of the Consumers' Association, who expressed concern about feeding lamb to children.

"We have agreed the attached line to take," said the memo, circulated with the 16 questions and answers which press officers were warned not to stray from when handling press enquiries.

One question and answer stipulates how the issue of children should be dealt with: "The age range of new variant CJD does not suggest that those who were children at the time they were probably exposed to BSE infection were at any greater risk than those who were young adults... Infants and children were not likely to be more susceptible than adults."

It was only yesterday that the rebuttal campaign was needed, when *Nature* 4's *Farmer's Today* interviewed Professor Jeffrey Almond, a member of the Government's Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (Seac), who expressed concerns about



The Government seems determined to bar some lines of questioning on fears that BSE may now be infecting sheep, and so be threatening people

Geoff Gurrutt

sheep and BSE. Professor Almond reiterated that BSE-infected material was fed to sheep in the 1960s; that it is possible to transmit BSE to sheep experimentally; and that BSE may go undetected in sheep because its symptoms are similar to scrapie, a natural disease of sheep.

"I think there is a distinct possibility that BSE is out there in the sheep population," he said. "But there are several

ways of viewing that. One is to say it's been out there all the time, and does not cause a problem because it doesn't transmit from sheep to humans.

"If, on the other hand, it's gone back into sheep from cows and is behaving somehow differently from sheep scrapie, then that could pose a risk to humans. Of course we have to be concerned about that."

Professor Almond then warned: "I think if we found

BSE in sheep it would be a national emergency, and I think politicians would have to think very hard about what the appropriate response would be."

Concern over the possibility of BSE infecting sheep goes back to experiments in the early 1990s which showed that when sheep are fed material derived from infected cattle, they can develop a brain disorder with scrapie-like symptoms. When scientists

injected pieces of sheep brain into laboratory mice they found it was identical to BSE. Scrapie is thought to be harmless to humans but BSE is known to cause new variant CJD.

The fear is that, if BSE in cattle poses a threat to human health, then BSE in sheep - if it is present in the national flock - may pose an equal threat. And as scrapie has become endemic by passing from one sheep to another, there are fears that

BSE in sheep could do the same thing, making it harder to eradicate than BSE in cattle.

The big question is whether any sheep in commercial flocks have ever contracted BSE. In July 1996 Seac decided that, even though the risk was only theoretical, action still had to be taken. It recommended the removal of sheep brains from the human food chain and urged the Government to increase its research effort into

the problem. In May 1997, Seac extended the offal ban to include spinal cords, spleen and mechanically recovered sheep meat.

These measures did not address the central problem of whether BSE has infected sheep in commercial flocks. The main difficulty of assessing this is that there is no simple test for BSE - it takes up to two years and many thousands of pounds to look for BSE in sheep

brain by injecting material into different strains of lab mice.

So far only nine sheep in the national adult flock of 30 million have been tested for BSE in this way, and as Professor Almond said, "Having found zero out of nine, what confidence can we attach to the statement 'BSE is not present in sheep'? The answer is 'very little'. Absence of evidence is often confused with evidence of absence."

Yesterday, Government press officers kept to the wording of the official rebuttal: "There is no evidence to show that BSE has been transmitted to sheep through infected feed and, if so, whether it is still present in any commercial sheep flock. As any sheep infected through feed would almost certainly have been slaughtered by now, the disease would only be present today if some form of transmission had occurred."

Professor John Collinge, another member of Seac and head of the prion disease group at Imperial College School of Medicine in London, is struggling to develop a much simpler test for BSE.

He has complained that his faster and cheaper test is not receiving the support from the agricultural community and MAFF that it deserves. Government officials, however, insist that the Collinge test is receiving the highest priority.

"In fact we have put quite a lot of money into two research teams, one at the Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge and one at the Institute of Animal Health, Compton, who have both worked with Collinge to try to get his technique to work on sheep," said the MAFF memo.

Without a simple test that can distinguish BSE in sheep from scrapie, it will be virtually impossible to detect the disease if it is only present in a fraction of the national flock. However, even if only 0.1 per cent of the flock is affected by BSE, that would still represent thousands of infected animals.

"This problem is not going to go away easily. We are going to be tackling it for years to come," said one BSE scientist.

### THE GOOD (AND BAD) FOOD GUIDE

HIGH RISK	LOW RISK
<b>BREAKFAST</b> Eggs, bacon and tomato. No one can forget what Edwin Currie did to eggs. This former health minister triggered the salmonella scare in the late 1980s, achieving at a stroke what years of health campaigns over cholesterol had failed to do. Bacon is feared for its cancer-causing nitrate and nitrosamine, and the genetically engineered variety may not appeal.	<b>BREAKFAST</b> Porridge, cereals, bread. The healthy way to start the day. Porridge oats have long been praised for their cholesterol effect on the arteries. Cereals of the sugarier variety are a good source of carbohydrate but pasteurised milk has recently been linked with a bug that causes Crohn's disease. Better stick to sterilised - it may taste revolting but why take the risk?
<b>ELEVENSES</b> Coffee with milk and artificial sweetener. Addiction is the big worry with coffee - aside from fears about cancer and heart disease. Many cannot get through the day without their caffeine shot. Take it black, to cut the calories, and unsweetened to avoid cancer.	<b>ELEVENSES</b> Tea with lemon and honey. Despite its healthy image, tea contains almost as much caffeine as coffee. It is, however, good for the heart - the tannins help the circulation. Lemon provides vitamin C and honey, sweetness - but beware, even this has been linked to cancer.
<b>LUNCH</b> Beefburger and chips, apple. For those who believe BSE was dreamed up to stop the march of the Big Mac. Too late to give them up now - the damage was done in the late 1980s before controls on infected cattle were introduced. Chips are the bane of the healthy eating lobby, and apples sprayed with Alar, a cancer-causing pesticide, worry some.	<b>LUNCH</b> Sandwich with cottage cheese and salad, orange. The low-calorie version, but beware if pregnant. Listeria in soft cheese has been linked to miscarriage. Wash the salad or go for organic. Some lettuce have been sprayed with Ag pesticides. Bread should be wholemeal. Oranges have an advantage over apples - they must be peeled.
<b>TEA</b> Cream cakes. Calorie-laden, artery clogging and delicious. Hence forbidden.	<b>TEA</b> Wholemeal scones. Brain-laden, gut-blooding and inedible - the doctor's choice.
<b>DINNER</b> Lamb chop, market veg, chocolate mousses, unpasteurised cheese. For two years since the BSE scare broke, we have been making spaghetti bolognese with lamb mince only to discover that we may have been getting those same brain-eating prions from another source. Market veg have the pesticides, commercial gateaux the preservatives, and unpasteurised cheese harbours all manner of bugs.	<b>DINNER</b> Ostrich steak, organic veg, fruit salad, water biscuits (no cheese). Ostrich is the leanest meat and the lowest in fat. It is a king among healthy foods. With organic veg and fruit salad, it is a meal to make your heart specialist swoon. Water biscuits may seem a little dry without cheese but why spoil the healthy effect? Wash them down with a glass of red wine and feel your arteries glow.

## Food scares can harm health

IT IS BECOMING difficult, in our risk averse society, to eat sensibly. Open the fridge and perils lurk on every shelf. If the salmonella in the eggs doesn't get you, the listeria in the cheese or the e coli in the pâté surely will.

Food scares happen with such regularity that to act on all of them would seriously damage your diet. What is often forgotten is the opportunity cost of

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

making a change. If, for example, you give up beef because of fears about BSE, and replace it with lamb, can you be sure you have made the healthier choice?

Even before the new fears about BSE in lamb, the answer was not straightforward. Lamb is a fattier meat than beef and

we know fat is bad for the heart. Thus in exchanging beef for lamb we may have avoided a tiny risk of succumbing to CJD (we still do not know how big) and replaced it with a substantially larger risk of succumbing to heart disease.

The importance of food scares is in keeping the food industry on their toes and conscious of what they are doing. It was complacency about pro-

duction methods that led to the BSE epidemic.

Complacency has led to the overuse of fertilisers and pesticides, preservatives and colourings, taste enhancers and fat modifiers.

The best advice for consumers is eat a balanced diet, with the emphasis on fresh rather than processed food, with plenty of fruit and vegetables - and not to panic.

## Things that go bonk in the night

COTTAGE NOISE Pollution, the intrusive sound of neighbours making love, can be bad for health, according to researchers.

While people are prepared to protest about loud stereos and other noises from next door the sound of sex is a taboo subject about which few people are willing to complain, despite the stress it causes.

BY ROGER DOBSON

"You can forgive the squeaking and then the banging, but it's the 'Yes! Yes! Yes!' that's really invasive," said one victim interviewed by the researchers at Cardiff University.

All those questioned by a team led by Dr Craig Gurney claimed to have heard the coital noises of neighbours. "This

noise was clearly distinctive and was always characterised by the description of moans or banging," said Dr Gurney, who will discuss his findings at a European housing research conference at the university.

"For these people the experience of overhearing coital noise was real. It had demonstrable effects upon their attitudes to their home and was

contingent upon dwelling design and household type."

Many said the worst aspect was the moaning and shouting: "You try to pretend. You convince yourself that it's something else but as soon as the moaning starts that's it, the illusion is shattered. It's not the water pipes, it's the neighbours making love," said one of those questioned.

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# 'Stop Murdoch Utd' campaign grows

A COALITION to stop Rupert Murdoch buying Manchester United Football Club started to form yesterday as fans, MPs and rival buyers looked to the Government to halt the takeover.

Meanwhile, Manchester United's board met yesterday afternoon to try to stifle one dissenting director who is believed to oppose the deal.

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Peter Mandelson, confirmed that any bid for the club by British Sky Broadcasting would be investigated by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT).

The Commons All-Party Football Group increased the pressure on Mr Mandelson with a demand that no decision be made on the takeover by without a Commons debate.

With the House not due to sit before mid-October, the MPs hope that their move will put a brake on Mr Murdoch's ambitions and force the Government to refer the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Joe Ashton, chairman of the All-Party Football Group and a director of Sheffield Wednesday, called for an urgent meeting with Mr Mandelson and will seek an adjournment debate when Parliament returns in the autumn.

Fans are planning a protest at tomorrow night's home game against Charlton Athletic. Leaflets will be distributed by the Independent Manchester United Supporters Association beforehand and demonstrations are anticipated with Mr Murdoch as the principal target.

"I don't think the crowd will need any encouragement from us to protest against Rupert Murdoch," Lee Hodgkiss, secretary of the association, said.

"They will be on his back. This is not just an issue about Manchester United, this affects every club in the country."

The Football Association also joined the fray yesterday. Graham Kelly, chief executive of the FA, said the club "had a responsibility" to talk to its own fans about any deal, and welcomed the announcement that the takeover bid would be referred to the Office of Fair Trading.

A potential rival to BSkyB also emerged with Eric - the leisure group which owns 25 per cent of Glasgow Rangers - confirming that it was looking at a bid. Eric has been encouraged by the level of opposition to the deal, but is unlikely to be able to pay as much as BSkyB for the club.

BSkyB will put its formal offer to United's board at the end of this week. The only voice of dissent on the board is believed to be Greg Dyke, a director of the company and head of Pearson Television, a rival to BSkyB.

The BSkyB bid pushed Manchester United's share price up by 30 per cent yesterday, adding £150m to the value of the club.

BY GUY HODGSON,  
PAUL WAUGH  
AND PAUL MCCANN

City analysts expect the takeover to be referred by the OFT, or by Mr Mandelson, to the monopolies commission on the grounds that it raises competition issues by having BSkyB as both buyer and seller of football rights.

Adam Brown, a member of the government-backed Football Task Force, also joined those opposed to the deal.

He said: "I'm very much against it. One of the things that has decimated baseball attendance in America is that fixtures have been moved around to meet the needs of television."

The Foreign Office minister, Tony Lloyd, MP for Manchester Central, said the plans raised "an awful lot of questions".

Mr Mandelson said the bid would be "of enormous interest and importance to a lot of people". And he added: "If a bid goes ahead, it will be notified to the director-general of fair trading and he will look at it very completely and extremely searchingly."

Members of Families of the Disappeared hold photographs of the loved ones whose bodies have never been found

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## Trimble makes his peace with Adams

BY DAVID MCKITTERICK  
Ireland Correspondent

THE NORTHERN Ireland peace process has produced so many unprecedented events and defining moments that when David Trimble spoke to Gerry Adams yesterday it produced interest but no real shockwaves.

Mr Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, described the occasion as workmanlike while Mr Adams, the Sinn Féin president, said there was no acrimony. The low-key presentation by the two men made the potentially historic encounter seem positively mundane.

The two political opponents have been in the same room on numerous occasions during the negotiations of the past year, but yesterday was the first time they have addressed each other directly.

They were among the leaders of parties of the new assembly who convened at Stormont to discuss various administrative matters. A further step will be taken on Thursday when the two men will have their first bilateral encounter.

Stormont still bore traces yesterday of last week's Clinton visit which was instrumental in bringing about the new forms of contact. Four pieces of sticky tape were still on the ground outside the front door: they had been placed there to show



Adams: 'No acrimony'

Bill Clinton, Tony Blair, David Trimble and his deputy Seamus Mallon where to stand to wave for the cameras.

During yesterday's meeting Mr Trimble, who chaired the proceedings, looked at the Sinn Féin leader and said "Gerry Adams", inviting him to speak. According to Mr Trimble later: "The only point of contention was when Sinn Féin representatives raised the question of the formation of the shadow executive."

"We pointed out that, under the agreement, a number of things must happen, that there must be progress on a number of things, that there must be progress on all matters, and this puts a particular responsibility on paramilitary-related parties."

Mr Adams said the encounter had been "good engagement", adding: "I think

the meeting was conducted in a good atmosphere and there was no acrimony." He said no pre-conditions lay in the way of Sinn Féin's participation in the new executive, insisting that parties had an automatic right of involvement.

Yesterday's meeting produced no conclusions on issues such as how many departments there should be for the new Northern Ireland administration, although there is a broad consensus that there will probably be 12. There was also no decision on when the shadow executive should come into existence.

In the meantime, however, the major parties have endorsed themselves in the large building which housed the Stormont parliament until its abolition in 1972. The building has since played host to a number of other assemblies, all of which ended in failure.

The parties are using the buildings offices and facilities such as the assembly members' dining room. Ad hoc committees are already functioning in advance of next Monday, when the assembly will reconvene following the summer break.

The funeral took place yesterday of the 29th victim of the Omagh bombing, who died at the weekend. The service for Sean McGrath, 61, who was married with four grown-up children, was held in Killybegs, Co Tyrone.



Members of Families of the Disappeared hold photographs of the loved ones whose bodies have never been found

Crispin Rodden

## Families' plea over IRA graves

PRESSURE MOUNTED on the IRA to reveal the secret graves of their victims yesterday as bereaved families launched a hotline for information.

The IRA admitted for the first time last week that it had executed a "small number of people" in the 1970s. Relatives of "the disappeared" now hope to persuade the Provisionals

BY KIM SENGUPTA

to reveal the locations of the remains, which will allow the dead to be given proper burials.

The IRA said last week it was setting up a special unit under a senior officer to trace the bodies. Sinn Féin has also set up its own helpline on the matter.

The families stressed that any information they receive on the free telephone service will remain confidential, and incriminating details will not be passed on to the police.

A relatives' group, Families of the Disappeared, said at the launch of the hotline in Belfast: "We welcome the new climate

of hope and reconciliation ... however, for us, the violence is not over, finished and done with. We still yearn for the return of the bodies of the loved ones."

Members of families spoke of their harrowing experiences and attempts to establish the fates of those abducted. One, 18-year-old John McCleary, had been taken away and warned by paramilitaries over his "anti-social behaviour" - carrying out two robberies - the weekend before he went missing.

His sister Eileen said yesterday: "We heard they took him to a flat in Lenadoon, a safe house where they interrogated

him in one room and Brian McKinney [another man who disappeared] in another. John threw himself out of the window, taking one of them with him. They shot him as he tried to get away. They had to shoot Brian as well. That's what we heard on the grapevine."

"Our mum's nearly 65 and all she wants is a grave to visit. We don't care who did it - we just want to know where he is."

Her mother, Mary McCleary, said: "All I want is my son's body. I just want to give him a decent burial."

Helen McKendry, whose mother Jean McConville was dragged from their home by

the IRA, is one of the founder members of Families of the Disappeared. Ms McConville had helped a dying British soldier, and may also have been suspected of being an informer.

Ms McKendry said she had heard from the media about the IRA's decision to try to locate the graves. She said: "It would have helped if they'd had the decency to tell us first."

At the moment the search for 14 graves, but more families are expected to come forward. One problem facing the IRA, it is believed, is that those who carried out the burials may not remember where the graves are after all these years.

## Save the Children



Today in Sudan 2.6 million people are in urgent need of food aid, and nearly half of these are at immediate risk from starvation. Children are suffering terribly. Right now the priorities are food and the need to provide protection and support to the children becoming separated from their families.

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- supplying high energy biscuits for children

- providing experts to the UN World Food Programme to plan how to get the food to those who need it most, and supplying trucks to facilitate the distribution of food beyond the airstrips

- providing a water consultant to assess the problems of water supply systems and training local mobile teams to create and maintain new water sources

- distributing fishing equipment, community survival kits and other essential items to give help to families now and in the future.

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## Scots reject pomp and jewels

GILDED COACHES and playing-card characters will have no part in the opening of Scotland's home rule parliament next year.

Though the Queen will make the opening speech, she is unlikely to be decked in ermine and jewels, or wearing a crown.

The radical departure from the Ruritanian-style opening of the Westminster parliament to a "simpler, but dignified" ceremony is emerging from a cross-party group making plans for the working of the Edinburgh parliament.

As well as a more modest role for the monarch, the group is also proposing to drop the Mother of Parliament's exaggerated courtesies and to work more family-friendly hours.

Instead of addressing each other in the debating chamber

BY STEPHEN GOODWIN  
Scotland Correspondent

as "the honourable member" as MPs do at Westminster ("honourable and gallant" in the case of former military officers and "honourable and learned" for QCs) members of the Scottish Parliament, or MSPs, will refer to each other as plain "Mr, Mrs, Miss or Ms".

The parliament is likely to sit five days a week from 9.30am to 5.30pm in a mix of committee and plenary sessions - avoiding the Commons practice of legislating late into the night.

Henry McLeish, the devolution minister chairing the group, said procedures should be "pragmatic, practical and modern". The proposed working hours were "family-friendly

and will hopefully allow more women to participate", he said.

Most interest, however, is focused on the opening ceremony, probably on 1 July, as Scotland marks its first parliament for almost 300 years. A consensus is emerging for a procession from Parliament House - home of the pre-1707 legislature - to the Church of Scotland Assembly Hall where the MSPs will sit temporarily.

The Queen will make an opening speech but it will not be one written by the Prime Minister, as is the case at Westminster when she reads out the Government's programme. That job will be done later by the First Minister - probably Donald Dewar.

A suggestion that the Queen should wear the Scottish crown,

last worn for the coronation of Charles II of Scotland in 1651, has not found much favour.

"We don't want the flummery of the Westminster opening," said George Reid, one time MP and Scottish National Party member of the group.

But the crown and other two pieces of the ancient "Honours of Scotland" - the silver gilt sceptre and sword of state - are likely to have a place, and may be paraded on the street.

Paul Cullen, a former solicitor-general for Scotland and the Tory representative, felt strongly an appropriate part should be found for the regalia.

But Jim Wallace, leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats, said no-one wanted "people dressed up as playing cards or walking backwards with sticks".

## GP is arrested after 28 deaths

BY CHRIS HAMILTON

A GP at the centre of a police investigation into the deaths of 28 patients was arrested yesterday.

Dr Harold Shipman, 52, who lives in Mottram, Cheshire, and has a surgery in Hyde, Greater Manchester, is being questioned by detectives who exhumed the body of an 81-year-old patient, Kathleen Grundy, last month.

Relatives of the former mayor from Hyde raised concerns after her death in June when they realised her will had been changed in Dr Shipman's favour.

She had left nothing of an estate estimated at more than £300,000 to her daughter, Angela Woodruff, 53, a solicitor from Warwick, or to her grandsons Richard, 24, and Matthew, 23.

Dr Shipman is thought to have been named as a significant beneficiary of the will, but it is being challenged by Mrs Grundy's family.

Mrs Grundy, a charity worker, was described as "sprightly" by friends, who were shocked when she was found dead. The day before she had watched a World Cup football match on television with friends. The death certificate signed by Dr Shipman gave the cause of death as old age.

A police spokeswoman said his arrest was in connection only with Mrs Grundy's death.

It is understood Dr Shipman voluntarily walked into Ashton police station yesterday morning, accompanied by his solicitor, where he was arrested and is being questioned.

## IN BRIEF

### Drink-driving Labour MP banned

A LABOUR MP was still nearly twice the legal drink-drive limit 12 hours after downing lager and ouzo to help him sleep. Jamie Carr, MP for Ipswich, was fined £1,000 and banned for 18 months by magistrates in Felixstowe, Suffolk, after admitting drink-driving in Martlesham on 29 August.

### Transport workers' blockade

BRITISH LORRY drivers face 24 hours of blockades today as transport workers worldwide protest at excessive working hours. The action will affect much of Europe, including Belgium, Austria, Luxembourg and Italy. But France - the heart of the transport network - will be worst hit.

### Holiday fall kills girl, 3

A THREE-year-old girl fell 40ft to her death from a hotel window last Wednesday while on holiday in Malta. It emerged yesterday. Bolton coroner Martin Coppel is due to open an inquest today on the death of Rebecca Ray, of Bolton, whose parents flew back with the body last Friday.

### Council delays decision on school

A LOCAL authority has delayed a decision on whether to invite private companies to bid to run one of its schools. Surrey County Council has also kept open the option of closing Kings Manor School in Guildford, which was declared failing by government inspectors earlier this year.

0345 45 15 15



## Fringe audiences dwindle as Tattoo beats records

BY DAVID LISTER  
Arts News Editor

THIS YEAR'S Edinburgh Festival has been a low-key, confused affair with at least one of the most important venues making a loss.

To add to the embarrassment, while alternative comedy and radical theatre have played to small audiences - with fringe organisers blaming bad weather - the most traditional entertainment of all, the Military Tattoo, attracted capacity crowds in pouring rain.

Yesterday, the city's tourist authority reported a 4 per cent year-on-year drop in visitor numbers in August. And William Burdett-Coutts, the head of the premier fringe venue, The Assembly Rooms, said the complex would make a loss this year. He also said there had been massive confusion and discontent about the decision to start the Fringe a week early, before the official festival.

Hilary Strong, director of the Fringe, made the change because, she said, performers



David Mamet

The belated UK premiere of David Mamet's first play *Lakeboat* should have been one of the festival's theatre hits. But it played to lower than expected audiences due to what Assembly Rooms director William Burdett-Coutts called "a lack of buzz".



Steve Harley

An intimate show by the former Cockney Rebel rock star was a little too intimate as audiences had their pick of the front rows. Harley's first-class performance was a victim of uneven sales in the controversial new first week.



Mark Little

You think the first week's bad. Try being on in the fourth. The ex-*Neighbours* and *Big Breakfast* TV man sold out his stand-up shows mid-festival, but there were empty seats in the fourth week when many punters believed the festival had finished.



John Dowie

One of the godfathers of stand-up comedy back this year with a comedy and poetry routine at the Pleasance. But a victim of first week uncertainties, and of not having the massive marketing organisation that today's top comics have.

preferred to appear in August before the poorer weather kept audiences away in early September.

But the event most susceptible to poor weather, the open-air Military Tattoo on

Edinburgh Castle esplanade, played to capacity. It sold more than 99 per cent of available tickets and notched up a record audience of over 210,000 in a three-week run.

The Assembly Rooms man-

agement said it would make a loss over this year's four-week run, despite a sell-out third week.

Karen Koren, of the Gilded Balloon venues, said overall ticket sales were up 25 per

cent, but the fourth week had been pointless.

The official festival also suffered from poor audiences in the final week, and its director, Brian McMaster, regretted the two events were not in step.

"From the point of view of our audience it is vital we share the same dates," he said. He added that, unlike the Fringe which has no fixed programme and accepts anyone who can find a performing space, the of-

ficial festival must plan several years ahead to secure big international performers, who are often unavailable in August.

Mr Burdett-Coutts said: "The dates issue killed the whole atmosphere of the fes-

tival. There was no buzz, the press was confused and the festival events in particular suffered. Next year, it has to be a three-week festival and the fringe and official festivals must act in harmony."

## Release deal for sex-crime prisoner

A DANGEROUS paedophile who is due to be released from prison next week has indicated that he is prepared to be locked up rather than return to a village where he abused children for 30 years.

Police and social workers have warned Rhys Hughes that he could be subjected to vigilante attacks if he goes home after being released from prison next Monday.

Hughes, 65, has served six years of a 10-year sentence for the rape and buggery of nine children, male and female, between 1967 and 1991.

A place has been found for him in a medium-secure unit, where he could be cared for at a cost to the public of around £100,000-a-year. But because he was jailed before the introduction of the 1991 Criminal Justice Act he cannot be forced to accept supervision.

Officials fear that Hughes - who refused treatment while he was in Dartmoor prison and who had earlier insisted that he

BY IAN BURRELL  
Home Affairs Correspondent

the village of Somming Common where Hughes, a retired gardener, has spent most of his life.

Female police officers will operate a 24-hour telephone line, so that his former victim can summon help if she ever feels under threat. To help other children in the village, a network of eight safety houses is being set up to offer sanctuary to any children who are frightened at being confronted by Hughes. The house-owners have been vetted by police.

Carol Viney, chairman of the Somming Common Parish Council, said that the security plan should be followed through in case Hughes returned at a later date.

"I don't think it would be dismantled if he goes into secure accommodation," she said. "The police have done everything they can possibly think of to minimise the risk and they have liaised with us constantly."

Ms Viney said local people preferred to rely on the police rather than to take the law into their own hands. "The village is still very calm and I would not have thought there is a huge vigilante group," she said.

Harry Fletcher, of the National Association of Probation Officers, said that the cost of keeping Hughes in secure accommodation would be good value compared with the expense of trying to contain him in his home village.

"It's money well spent if it leads to treatment and protects children," he said. "All the research shows that with dangerous sex offenders, the more controls that are imposed on behaviour, the safer the community."

Hughes is one of at least six dangerous paedophiles among 150 sex offenders being released over the next two years without supervision.

Two who have already been freed - the child killers Sidney Cooke and Robert Oliver - agreed to be housed in secure accommodation after being the subject of violent demonstrations by protesters. Cooke is in secret police accommodation in Avon and Somerset, while Oliver is being held in a medium secure psychiatric unit near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

However, Stephen Barrell - who was a member of the same paedophile gang as Cooke and Oliver - has vanished after being released early from a 10-year sentence.



Rhys Hughes: Indicated agreement to supervision

would return home on release - may change his mind again and go back to the Oxfordshire village where a 15-year-old girl, who he abused a decade ago, still lives.

Michael Biddulph, a spokesman for Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Probation Service, said that officials had to take contingency measures to cover all possible outcomes.

He said: "Secure accommodation is what we have all been working for. It would be in everybody's interest, including his own. But we also have to work on the basis that he will do what he earlier said he would do and go back to his own home."

Thames Valley Police have drawn up a major security programme to protect children in

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DAVID AARONOVITCH

'Just because I think that adultery is not the ultimate sin, that is not the same as saying that it is mostly a good idea'

— THE TUESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4

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# New 'supernurses' to help rescue NHS

A NEW grade of highly-paid "supernurses" will be unveiled today by the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, as a centrepiece of the Government's plans to modernise the National Health Service.

The nursing consultants, as they will be known, will be put in charge of their own clinics in an effort to rid the "Carry On" image of nurses as doctors' handmaidens.

Mr Blair will reveal the new post along with plans to create 6,000 nursing training places

BY PAUL WAUGH  
Political Correspondent

over the next three years when he attends the Royal College of Nursing's Nurse of the Year Award in London.

The "supernurses" will have their own list of patients and staff and will be allowed to run clinics in disciplines such as breast cancer care and cardiac rehabilitation. The post is an attempt to end the career ceiling that currently means any nurse who wants a higher salary and

status has to abandon the wards and go into hospital management.

Mr Blair will claim that the creation of the new role is a key part of his drive to modernise the National Health Service and will promote nurses as skilled professionals rather than as "angels of mercy".

He will reiterate this summer's announcement that the comprehensive spending review will create 15,000 nursing jobs over the next three years. In a drive to attract more

women to nursing, Mr Blair will also call on NHS trusts to review their employment policies to make them more "family oriented". The Prime Minister will demand that hospitals offer more job-shares, child-friendly shift patterns and an overhaul of conditions of service.

He will call for self-rostering to give nurses, rather than managers, control of working arrangements and urge more "keep-in-touch" contracts that allow hospitals to keep jobs open for women who have car-

eer breaks for children. Mr Blair will tell the RCN: "Some nurses at a certain point in their career are happy to move into management, but many others want to progress but still retain direct, day-to-day contact with patients, the reason why they came into nursing in the first place. The creation of nursing consultant posts, rooted in clinical practice and in touch with patients and staff would be one way of recognising and meeting that aspiration."

The nursing consultants

would have the same status within nursing that medical consultants have within their profession. "The consultant nurses would provide a focus for developing and supporting specialist roles in the profession and provide nurses with an alternative career path."

At the moment, starting salary for a newly qualified nurse is £12,600, rising to £26,500 for the most senior grade of clinical nursing specialists. The structure dates from a grading scheme introduced by the

Tories 10 years ago in an attempt to allow nurses to earn more at the highest level.

The Prime Minister is expected to make clear that while all nursing pay rises have to be affordable, the "supernurses" are likely to earn higher salaries than senior staff at present.

Ministers hope that the announcement will help stave off union anger that the nurses' pay award is to be phased in over the next year. Nurses' pay is sure to be a key issue over the

next few months, particularly in the light of public statements from Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, that it should be higher.

Pay is seen by both the RCN and the traditionally more militant Unison as an important test of the Government's stated desire to attract and retain more British nurses.

Recent evidence showed that poor pay and morale led thousands of nurses to go abroad, leaving the gaps to be filled by nurses from overseas.

## Death of pop star baffles police

BY SIMON TEGEL

POLICE do not know whether a pop star found burning in the street was murdered or if he committed suicide, an inquest jury was told yesterday.

Michael Menson was discovered lying fatally injured on the North Circular road in Edmonstone, north London, early on 28 January last year.

The police made extensive inquiries but are unclear whether he was killed or if Mr Menson, a registered schizophrenic, set himself on fire. Hounsey coroner's court was told.

Detective Chief Inspector Robert Scott said Mr Menson's brother Kwesi had insisted that the musician, who had five hit singles in the 1980s with the group Double Trouble, had told him from his hospital bed that he had been attacked by four youths.

Det Ch Insp Scott said Kwesi had insisted: "Michael made mention of four youths on a bus and they might be responsible."

His officers had spoken to about 300 people, including one now living in northern Cyprus, about the death. They had also taken up to 200 statements.

"Not one witness of any substance has been found in the last 18 months that can give us any concrete facts about how this happened," he said. However, the death was being treated as murder.

Mr Menson, the son of a Ghanaian diplomat, died in Billericay hospital, Essex, in February from his injuries.

Rajiv Sharma, consultant psychiatrist, who was treating him at Chase Farm Hospital at the time of the incident, told the inquest that Mr Menson was a schizophrenic who suffered bouts of acute psychosis including hallucinations and delusional beliefs that he was being followed and persecuted.

Mr Menson may have harboured suicidal ideas, Dr Sharma said, but he did not have the necessary "suicidal intent".

When Dr Sharma last saw Mr Menson as an outpatient on 10 January, the musician's "mood was good".

Brian Leslie, who saw the burning man, said Mr Menson failed to react to the fact that he was on fire. Initially Mr Menson was "strolling" and "relaxed" despite the fact that his back was on fire. Mr Leslie added.

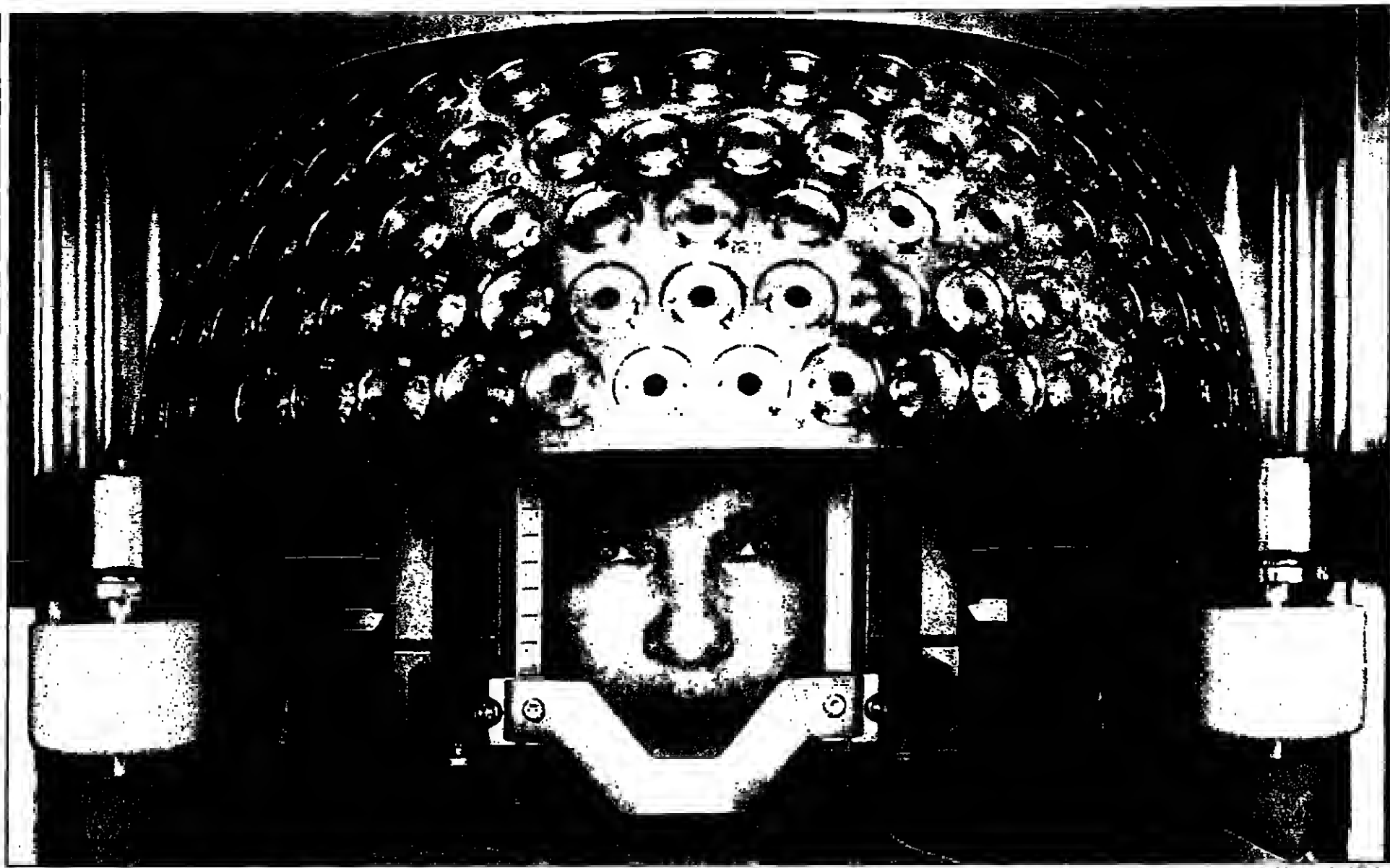
Constable Johanna Walsh, the first police officer on the scene, said Mr Menson, who appeared to be "in a trance", had left a trail of burning clothes along the road. She asked him three times who had done that to him and received no response. The fourth time Mr Menson replied simply "Lee".

He responded positively when she asked him if that was someone he knew. Nevertheless, Ms Walsh said, it was not necessary to cordon off the area as a crime scene because she believed Mr Menson had set himself alight.

Terry Munyard, counsel for Mr Menson's family, asked the PC why she had disregarded the injured man's apparent claim that someone else had set him on fire.

She said: "I didn't at the time believe that he knew what he was saying."

The inquest continues.



A patient prepared for treatment with the Gamma Knife, which focuses a high dose of radiation on a tumour

Glynn Griffiths

## Hospital's virtual knife in a helmet marks the dawn of bloodless surgery

THE ERA of bloodless surgery is heralded today with the launch of a machine that can operate inside the head without the skull being opened.

The Gamma Knife can remove brain tumours and repair abnormal arteries while leaving the skin intact. Just as keyhole surgery has taken over from open surgery, the Gamma Knife marks the start of no-hole surgery.

The device focuses a beam of intense radiation at the precise spot inside the skull where the tissue to be destroyed, such as a brain tumour, is located. The dead cells are removed by natural processes and carried away in the blood.

The treatment, known as radiosurgery, is painless, lasts five to fifteen minutes and the patient can return to work next day. A conventional brain operation takes several hours under general anaesthetic followed by intensive care and a long convalescence.

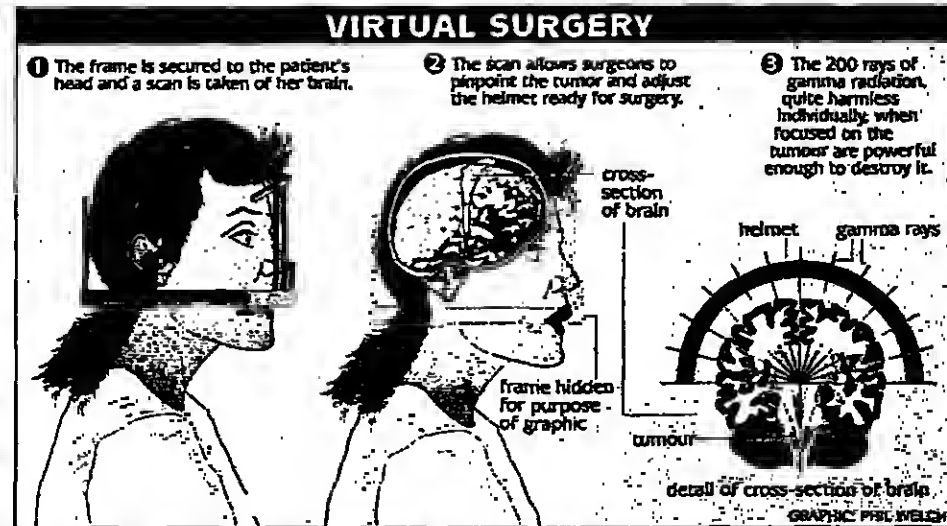
Christher Lindquist, neurosurgeon at Cromwell Hospital,

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

London, who will operate the machine, said: "The idea is to deliver a killing dose of radiation at one single time without injuring the surrounding tissue. This is at the frontier of technology for non-invasive treatments."

The development of the machine marks the growing importance of engineers in hospitals. The era of heroic surgery in which patients are opened up and their internal organs rearranged is passing into history. Surgeons increasingly rely on high-tech instruments, some operated by robots, inserted through tiny incisions, or no incision at all. As one expert put it: "We have got to get away from the idea that when something goes wrong you make a bloody great hole, put your hands inside and sort it out. Our grandchildren won't believe that is what we did."

The Gamma Knife focuses 200 separate rays of radiation



in the head. The rays are beamed through holes in a metal helmet like a colander. Each is too weak to cause damage as it passes through the skin and brain but focused together on a single point they destroy tissue in that area.

The success of the device depends on the accuracy of the targeting system. If the wrong

### VIRTUAL SURGERY

1 The frame is secured to the patient's head and a scan is taken of her brain.  
2 The scan allows surgeons to pinpoint the tumour and adjust the helmet ready for surgery.  
3 The 200 rays of gamma radiation, quite harmless individually, when focused on the tumour are powerful enough to destroy it.

cancer cells remaining after conventional surgery. Radiotherapy relies on the biological principle that healthy cells recover after a (relatively) low dose of radiation but cancer cells do not. The Gamma Knife uses a much higher dose of radiation, which destroys both healthy and cancer cells.

However, in the case of cancer, it is suitable only for secondary brain tumours that have spread from elsewhere in the body and are well defined in the brain. Primary brain tumours throw off malignant cells, which cannot be mopped up by the radiosurgery technique.

The £2.5m machine acquired by the private Cromwell Hospital is the first to be installed in Britain exclusively for clinical use. It will be available to NHS patients at a cost of £7,000 to their health authorities. An older machine has been used in trials at Sheffield University, chiefly for arterial malformations of the brain. Worldwide, an estimated 80,000 patients have been treated.

the treatment of liver cancer, spinal tumours and pancreatic cancer. Its use is limited by the need to hold the target organ rigid, though that may change in future.

Radiosurgery is different from radiotherapy which delivers a lower dose of radiation to a wider area to mop up any

cancer cells remaining after conventional surgery. Radiotherapy relies on the biological principle that healthy cells recover after a (relatively) low dose of radiation but cancer cells do not. The Gamma Knife uses a much higher dose of radiation, which destroys both healthy and cancer cells.

## Firms fined for child workers

THE AVON cosmetics firm was fined yesterday after a court was told how children turned up for work at its factory in their school uniforms.

Northampton Magistrates' Court heard the three young people - who cannot be named for legal reasons - were recruited by the Kelly agency for the "twilight" shift. Both firms were fined a total of £3,750 after admitting three charges each of employing children in November last year and April this year. Under the 1996 Education Act, children are not allowed to work in a factory until after their GCSEs.

The court was told that the 16-year-olds had not yet taken their GCSEs and were employed on light duties in the Northampton firm's liquid cosmetics production line.

"They were putting lids on bottles, bottles into boxes, putting the boxes off the production line," Anne Wilson, prosecuting for the Health and Safety Executive, told the court.

The law was there to protect young people's safety - as they were statistically more likely to have accidents - and their education, she said.

She said Kelly had recruited the children to work at Avon but the company made no inquiries about their ages.

"Sometimes they turned up in school uniform," she said.

The teenagers - who were paid £3.70 an hour to work 5pm to 9pm Monday to Thursday - had not tried to deceive Kelly about their age. But the recruitment firm's in-house manual was wrong and had since been changed, the court was told.

Ron Reid, for Avon, told the court the teenagers were employed during busy periods before Christmas and Easter. He said Avon paid the same rate whatever the employee's age and the company had received no financial benefit from employing them.

After the case, Miss Wilson said: "Both firms were equally responsible. We would like other firms to take notice of this case. If a child is not old enough to take their GCSEs they cannot work in a factory."

Mr Reid, for Avon, described the case as "regrettable", but added: "This is not child labour. They were 16, employed in light duties and, but for a change in legislation, they would have been legally employed."

Kelly Services said it "regretted" recruiting the three teenagers, and new screening procedures were now in place to prevent a repetition.

## Sex case bishop forced to retire

THE FORMER Bishop of Galway, Eamonn Casey, whose secret fathering of a son after an affair with an American woman scandalised the Roman Catholic Church, has given up his campaign to regain a public role in the priesthood after a six-year exile.

In a statement effectively signalling his retirement, the 71-year-old said yesterday he was "not seeking any public ministry in the Church in Ireland, England or elsewhere".

Earlier this year, Dr Casey completed a five-year contract of mission work in a remote part of Ecuador with the Boston-based Society of St James. After spending some time in the United States, he flew to England last month.

This prompted a flurry of reports suggesting his move was aimed at forcing the Church into giving him a public

BY ALAN MURDOCH  
in Dublin

role. A senior Irish bishop was understood to have sought a post in Britain on his behalf.

But the statement, issued on his behalf by the Catholic press office in Dublin, said he had resigned from the Society of St James and was living with relatives in England as he needed "some time to myself".

The final decision on his possible rehabilitation lay with the Congregation of Bishops in Rome. Cardinal Basil Hume strongly opposed any posting in his diocese, and said it would be "inappropriate" for Dr Casey to take up a post in London.

A spokesman for the London Church said most bishops in England and Wales would agree that Dr Casey should not work in public ministry there. Dr Casey travelled to Ireland



Eamonn Casey: Seeking 'some time to myself'

in recent weeks, and visited a former classmate in Omagh after the bombing.

Nothing quite like the Dr Casey affair has been seen in the Irish Church in centuries. The disbeliever that greeted the scandal was compounded by the Irish Catholic clergy's rigid sexual conservatism.

## Secret archives to reveal sources of Nazi gold

SECRET GOVERNMENT papers to be unveiled tomorrow could finally reveal the sources of gold looted by the Nazis and recovered at the end of the Second World War.

In a ceremony concluding half a century of negotiations over the fate of the gold, the Tripartite (Allies) Gold Commission (TGC) set up to handle the loot will be wound up.

And TGC archives, which Jewish campaigners argue could hold the key to tracing gold stolen from victims of the Holocaust, will be opened for the first time.

The TGC was founded to restore the wealth to countries whose national reserves were plundered by the Germans. But Jewish organisations believe that some of the gold was

the personal assets of those who perished in the death camps. It may even have included gold taken from Holocaust victims' teeth.

Janice Lopatkin, director of the Holocaust Educational Trust, said they were convinced some "victim gold" had been given to countries by the TGC, but without the TGC files they were unable to establish how much.

"We don't know if these archives hide any uncomfortable secrets, or if delay in releasing them was just international bureaucracy. Either way, the release is symbolically important. We have already arranged to research further," she said.

Research by the trust has led to a "helated international recognition that victim gold had been misused", she said. Although the gold returned to governments was done so under international agreements, proof that some of it came from Holocaust victims might put moral pressure on countries to pay compensation.

The refusal of the British, French and Americans, who together form the TGC, to release the files until the commission's work was completed provoked a bitter dispute at the Nazi gold conference in London last December. But the TGC members argued that releasing them might have caused friction between claimant governments and delayed completion of the commission's work.

At the time of the conference,

£48m of gold - about 5.5 tons of the original 337 tons - remained in the Bank of England for the TGC to return to countries including France and the Netherlands. Many subsequently agreed to give it up to needy Holocaust survivors.

Now only £500,000 in gold and £33,000 currency is left - owed to the former Yugoslavia. Its return signals the end of the commission's work.

A closure ceremony at the French foreign office tomorrow will be attended by representatives of the British, French and US governments, including the US under-secretary of state, Stuart Eizenstat. A British Foreign Office spokesman said the Government welcomed the opportunity for "transparency" provided by opening the files.

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July 20 1998















# Row over French minister's coma

SIX DAYS after a cabinet minister fell into a coma during routine surgery, France is starting to ask questions about what happened to Jean-Pierre Chevènement and why.

"France" includes the Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, who has complained privately that doctors at the premier French military hospital are starving him of information on his friend's condition.

It also includes the influential newspaper *Le Monde*, which led its front page yesterday on the many unanswered questions about Mr Chevènement's medical "accident". The newspaper also demanded an "exhaustive,

BY JOHN LICHFIELD  
in Paris

independent inquiry". As *Le Monde* pointed out, the secrecy surrounding the Interior Minister's near-fatal reaction to an anaesthetic (the news was suppressed for 24 hours) has generated some far-fetched rumours.

It is no coincidence, some mutter darkly, that Mr Chevènement, 59, leader of the populist *Mouvement des Citoyens*, was taking an unusually tough line with the Corsican independence movement and its Mafia-like activities. Others suggest, more reasonably, that the

secrecy is part of a self-serving cover-up by the medical establishment.

The town hall at Belfort in eastern France, where Mr Chevènement was born and was mayor for 14 years until last year, has been swamped by phone calls. "They think the media is not telling them the whole truth," said the present mayor, Jacky Drouet, an ally of the ailing minister.

Mr Chevènement has been in a coma since last Wednesday, after going into the Val-de-Grâce military hospital for a routine operation to remove his gall bladder. Officially, he is said to be improving slowly but is being kept unconscious to



Jean-Pierre Chevènement (left) is a friend and political ally of the Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin

enhance his chances of full recovery. Concern deepened yesterday when the Education Minister, Claude Allègre, a man known for speaking his mind, contradicted this official version of events. He said that Mr

Chevènement's condition was "stationary and alarming".

According to *Le Monde*, the Prime Minister has told members of his office that he is not receiving "enough" information from the military doctors.

The Interior Minister's loss - even temporarily - would be a serious blow to Mr Jospin. As leader of a centre-left faction allied to Mr Chevènement is one of the most important jigsaw pieces in the pink-red-green coalition that has been ruling France since June last year.

His "Citizen's Movement", founded in 1992, is Eurosceptic, conservative on social issues and leftist on the econ-

omy. It is largely through his influence that the Jospin government has taken a tough line on immigration and law and order. In return, Mr Chevènement has backed the administration's pro-European Union and pro-EMU policies.

The Interior Minister had planned to be back at his desk within a week. Doctors at the hospital said he suffered a massive allergic reaction to curare, which was part of the anaesthetic. His heart stopped beating for more than an hour and he went into a coma.

He has not recovered consciousness. Medical bulletins say he is no longer in a coma, in the proper sense, but is

kept unconscious to reduce the risk of brain damage.

*Le Monde* complained yesterday that the hospital and government were refusing to say whether precautions had been taken to establish whether Mr Chevènement was allergic to curare before the operation. "To hide behind a veil of secrecy, whether medical, military or state, is the surest way to let rumours take hold," it said.

The Val-de-Grâce hospital issued a bulletin last night in which it said Mr Chevènement was improving slowly. The hospital said it remained to be seen whether his brain had been damaged.

## Truckers' chaos may trigger EU controls

THE EUROPEAN Commission will promise tough new rules restricting hours for transport workers if today's strike of European truck drivers wrecks a deal between unions and management.

The intervention comes as British travellers brace themselves for lengthy delays, particularly in France, brought about by a day of action to highlight conditions in the industry. The militant French truckers plan action on the borders, which could effectively seal off the country for 24 hours. They are also promising go-slows, convoys and "filters" when other drivers are stopped, picketed and allowed to pass.

The promise of new transport regulations, under the controversial Working Time Directive (WTD) will alarm Eurosceptics and industry employers, particularly in the UK.

The new package of measures is likely to stipulate minimum rest periods for drivers in all 15 European member states, but fall short of a blanket 48-hour week in an industry where work patterns are irregular. Transport workers, with junior doctors, were initially exempted from the terms of the directive, which lays down a maximum 48-hour week for most workers.

However, the Commission, which is anxious to impose uniform regulations among European hauliers, later suggested that office staff and other so-called "non-mobile" transport workers should be covered by the directive.

It also called for a negotiated agreement for the remaining workers between unions and management. These, more sensitive, talks are due to come to a head on 18 September.

Today Neil Kinnock, Transport Commissioner, and Padraig Flynn, Employment and

BY STEPHEN CASTLE AND  
KATHERINE BUTLER  
in Brussels

Social Affairs Commissioner, will promise their own action if a deal is not done. "If they fail to conclude this agreement we will have to step in because it is a very important sector," a Commission spokesperson said yesterday. In Brussels there was some surprise at the timing of today's industrial action as negotiations were proceeding ahead of the crucial 18 September meeting. But there was optimism that the deal could be struck, despite today's action. Commission officials described it as a "day-long strike designed to make a point" and played down the prospect of a prolonged blockade.

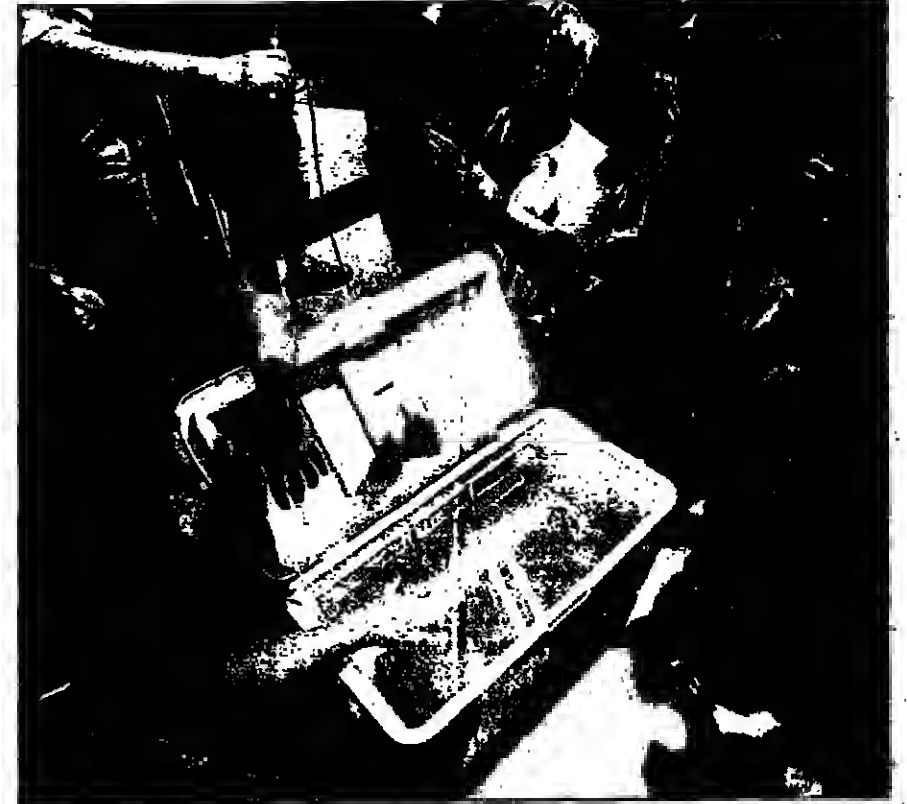
Union sources suggested an agreement may be reached that would limit the working week to an average of around 60 hours, reflecting the more flexible structure of truck driving. But detailed negotiations are still under way to clarify if time spent, for example, waiting to clear Customs should count towards the total. Unions argue the action had been called to draw attention to conditions in the industry, especially driver fatigue, blamed on unregulated hours, but not linked directly to the wider talks.

In Britain Daniel Hodges, spokesman for the Road Haulage Association (RHA), said: "What we wish to ensure is better enforcement of existing regulations before introducing more regulations which would be difficult... to enforce."

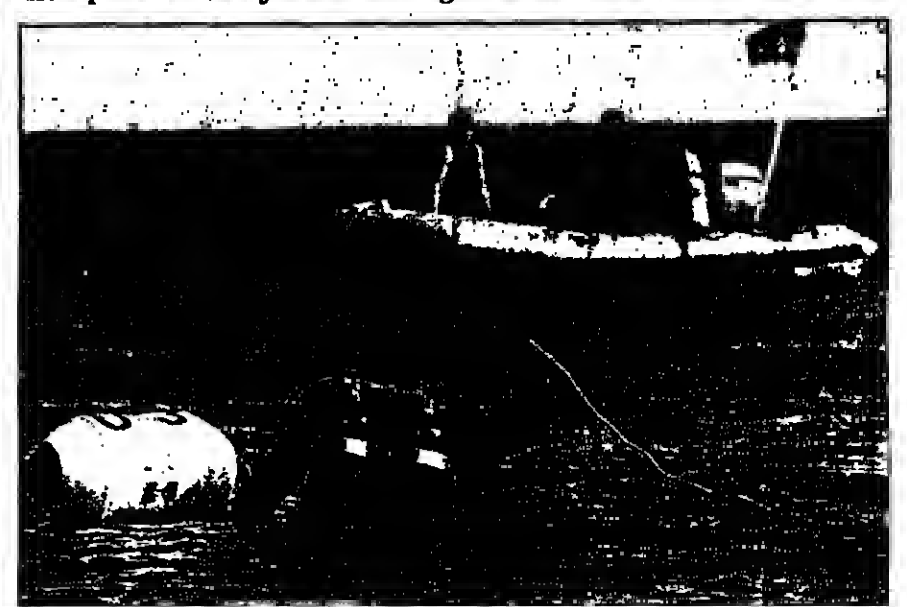
The RHA also wants to know what the Commission will do if "the unions do not feel that their demands have been met". The Commission, which has a duty to ensure free movement, said yesterday that it will monitor the situation on blockades.



Left: A Canadian Coast Guard vessel unloads boxes of debris recovered from the Swissair jet in Halifax. Right: Divers prepare for a further search



The flight recorder of Swissair flight 111 inside a cooler at a hangar at the Transportation Safety Board building in Ottawa, Canada



## Navy traces signals from second black box

CANADA'S NAVY said yesterday it was confident it had detected the signal from Swissair flight 111's second black box, the cockpit voice recorder. It was picked up by submarine, a navy spokesman said.

The news came a day after divers found the plane's other black box, the flight data recorder, which was flown to an Ottawa laboratory for checks. If it is in good condition, it may help to explain why the jumbo

BY PETER CAPELLA  
in Geneva

jet crashed late last Wednesday, killing all 229 people aboard.

The latest developments come amid signs that the disaster hefting the Swiss national airline has reopened wounds between the country's francophone western part and the Swiss-Germans in the east.

An editorial in *Le Matin*, a popular western Swiss daily, at

the weekend called one Swissair's director a "snotty little boss, an operetta colonel". The newspaper claimed Philippe Bruggisser ignored French-speaking sensitivities when he favoured German language media while organising a simulation of the effect of smoke in an aircraft cockpit - thought to be one of the origins of the emergency that struck the New York to Geneva flight. The paper also accused Mr Bruggisser

of speaking exclusively in Swiss-German and English during press conferences.

The paper criticised the airline's decision to organise memorial services in Zürich, Geneva and New York next Friday as an attempt to undermine another service held in French-speaking Geneva's cathedral.

The comments betray the resentment of the national airline in western Swiss media, which regard Swissair as the epitome

of Germanic economic dominance and arrogance. The airline's headquarters are in Zürich, the country's economic capital, with management dominated by Swiss-Germans.

In April 1996, Franco-phones reacted with fury when Swissair decided to centre all its intercontinental flights on Zürich as part of a cost-cutting drive. Geneva was left with a few European destinations, the New York flight and a new

shuttle service to Zürich for connecting flights. It was regarded as a betrayal in the western city, which relies on a wide range of air links to attract international organisations.

German is the native language of 64 per cent of the population, French of 19 per cent.

Another by-product of the two-year-old rivalry launches on Thursday. A new airline, based in Geneva, Swiss World Airways, starts flights to New York.

## Worried Bavarians may abandon Kohl

BAVARIA'S RESTLESS conservatives threatened yesterday to declare UDI from Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling Christian Democrats (CDU) should they form a coalition government with the Social Democrats after this month's federal elections.

With less than three weeks to polling day, the latest blast from the south will only add to the general feeling that the government's troops are in disarray. The Christian Social Union (CSU), an independent party in Bavaria that is incorporated into Chancellor Kohl's

BY IMRE KARACS  
in Bonn

group in the federal parliament in Bonn, seems to be admitting the possibility of defeat.

Opinion polls persistently show the rival Social Democrats leading the CDU-CSU block by between 3 and 5 percentage points. If the figures stay the same, after 27 September the new Chancellor will be Gerhard Schröder, who may have to form a "grand coalition" with his current adversaries.

The Bavarians would not tolerate that. "It would, of course, mean the end of our relationship if the CDU were they to enter a coalition with the SPD," said Michael Glos, CSU leader, in an interview on German radio.

A split between the CDU and its more right-wing sister party would herald the highest realignment in German politics since the Second World War. But "everyone knows it is inconceivable," Mr Kohl retorted. "The CDU and CSU have en-

joyed a close and proven alliance," the corner-stone of the "stability of our republic".

The Bavarians do not quite see it that way. With elections coming up this Sunday to their regional assembly, they have been trying to put as great a distance between themselves and the Chancellor as possible. The impression emerging from Munich is the Bavarians have given up on Mr Kohl's chances of re-election, and feel his record in government will damage their own prospects at home.

Their prime minister, Edmund Stoiber, is also insulted by the way Mr Kohl is handling his succession, picking his loyal and competent lieutenant, Wolfgang Schäuble, to take over the reins in a distant future. Mr Stoiber thinks there is a far better candidate: himself.

Mr Stoiber and his colleagues will no doubt strike a friendlier tone with their Bonn allies after Sunday's Bavarian vote, and their expected comfortable victory might even put some wind in Mr Kohl's sails.

### IN BRIEF

#### Burmese military hold opposition politicians in wave of arrests

THE MILITARY government of Burma arrested 110 members of the opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi's political party. The National League for Democracy said yesterday that 50 elected MPs were among those detained in a wave of arrests, which have so far taken place mainly in provinces outside of Burmese capital, Rangoon.

#### Maltese put EU entry on agenda

THE EUROPEAN Union said it expected Malta to re-apply for EU membership after the election victory of the Nationalist Party. Final results of the weekend polls showed the Nationalists with 51.8 per cent of the vote, to 46.9 for Labour. The Nationalist leader, Eddie Fenech Adami, said EU entry was top of his agenda.

#### Rioters burn Chinese shops

RIOTING ERUPTED in the town of Kebumen in central Java in Indonesia yesterday, with a mob setting ablaze 20 shops owned by ethnic Chinese. Troops were brought in from nearby towns to try to restore order.

#### Taliban ready for talks with Iran

THE AFGHAN Taliban movement said its border with Iran was calm but fighters remained on alert after a huge Iranian military build-up. The Islamic militia said it was ready to hold talks about Iranian nationals detained by the Taliban.

#### Hun Sen cracks down on protests

CAMBODIA'S STRONGMAN, Hun Sen, ordered an end to weeks of protest against his rule and said his opponent, Sam Rainsy, would be arrested. One man was killed when police fired shots to disperse 600 people gathered outside the hotel where Mr Rainsy was taking refuge.

## German postmen spy on homes for database

BEWARE OF postmen bearing clipboards. Big Brother, Germans have discovered, is the man or woman with the friendly smile who delivers letters.

Germans, many of whom still recall the file-gathering habits of the Gestapo and Stasi, have been scandalised by revelations that the post office has put together a databank covering just about every citizen. The information is being sold to advertisers.

Nobody asked why postmen were taking notes during their rounds until an innocuous article in the post office's in-house magazine revealed all. In the new commercial spirit, the company announced, it had launched a new service: snooping on demand.

Who else, but the people who visit every home in the land, can find out more about the habits of its citizens? The task may be great, but in the postal worker's post office has vast resources. The post office has created 56 categories of Germans, based on their

homes. Do they live in a detached house, a semi, terrace or block of flats, a questionnaire asks. Is there a garden, and if so, how big is it, and in what condition? How old is the building, and is it well-kept? Is its location favourable? Is there a garage or, better, a double garage?

The answers are invaluable to a company selling lawnmowers, for instance. Or to a car dealership, or just about anyone wanting to sell something. Properly collated, the post office's latter-day Domesday Book can let advertisers zoom in on big-spenders and stop wasting time on the poor.

The post office itself is anything but modest about the power of its "unique" investigations. "The data on places of residence can be combined with socio-demographic and statistical aspects, for instance with the age, purchasing power and consumption habits of the residents," its brochure boasts.

No doubt advertisers are impressed, but Germans are scandalised by this sort of thing, and have laws against it. Germany has some of the most restrictive regulations on the protection of individual data, preventing, for instance, its own spying apparatus from efficient snooping.

Stung by criticism of its new line of business, the post office was forced to issue a statement yesterday denying its own claims of efficiency. Individuals cannot be identified by its methods, the company said.

Politicians and human rights groups are not so sure. "If I were to inform someone that the people living at Number Three Hochstrasse are probably rich, drive two cars and have a swimming pool, you can work out their names even if I did not give their names," said Helmut Baumer, head of the data protection agency of Schleswig-Holstein.

The head of the national data protection agency is now investigating.

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Russian crisis: 'We're at the edge,' says Chernomyrdin as Duma rejects him for PM and rouble continues free fall

# Yeltsin's choice is thrown out again

RUSSIA'S AGONY deepened last night when parliament thrust the country into yet another week of political limbo by defying Boris Yeltsin for a second time and rejecting Viktor Chernomyrdin as premier.

As the rouble fell still further, and food shortages turned from a painful memory into reality, the Duma remained unmoved in its opposition to the acting prime minister, voting 273-138 against confirming him in office. Restless, hurting and unstable, Russia is entering a third week without a government.

President Yeltsin's parliamentary opponents were unimpressed by an appeal from Mr Chernomyrdin, who told the Duma it is "the hours that count; we are at the edge, and could now lose time - and the country".

They were equally unim-

BY PHIL REEVES  
in Moscow

pressed by a revamped power-sharing offer outlined and signed in the hours before the vote by the debilitated Mr Yeltsin at a meeting with parliamentary leaders in the Kremlin. He said he was willing to review his premier's performance after six months. But it was not enough.

At the heart of this damaging deadlock is a crisis of trust; the parliamentary opposition does not believe the president. They want his officers - for instance, to change the constitution and allow parliament to vet cabinet appointments - to come with concrete guarantees. Mr Yeltsin cannot, legally, give them.

Efforts by Mr Chernomyrdin - whose six years in office has



Russians selling possessions at a flea market in St Petersburg as the rouble slides. Right: Viktor Chernomyrdin, acting prime minister, in the Duma yesterday AP

tainted him deeply in the public eye - to win Russia round with an emotional television address on Sunday night failed embarrassingly. Yesterday as he sat moodily in the Duma, sandwiched by the interior and

defence ministers, he had a loser's air, the look of a man who has played his last card. His address to the chamber was subdued, even weary at times. He trotted out his plan: lower taxes; a balanced budget; back

the rouble with hard currency reserves; nationalised alcohol production and so on, with little impact. Although his support rose by 44 votes against the first poll, he still suffered a 135-vote defeat. Most of the new support

came from Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's nationalist party, the Liberal Democrats.

Mr Yeltsin now faces an extremely perilous calculation. There is one more vote to go on Mr Chernomyrdin in the Duma,

which must take place within a week of his name being put forward again. The President could nominate him again, take the contest down to the wire, and hope the Duma places self-preservation above principle and caves in. Or Mr Yeltsin could give in, lose face, deliver his hated parliamentary foes their most spectacular victory to date and nominate another candidate. Neither course will be easy.

## Primakov emerges as Duma's front-runner

BY PHIL REEVES

THE RUSSIAN Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Primakov, emerged as a front-running candidate for prime minister yesterday should President Boris Yeltsin succumb to opposition demands that he dump Viktor Chernomyrdin.

The stoical but shrewd Mr Primakov has the backing of two important factions in the State Duma, which yesterday threw out Mr Chernomyrdin's nomination for a second time condemning Russia to a third week of political limbo.

The prospect of the former head of foreign counter-intelligence as premier - a far more powerful position now, given Mr Yeltsin's weakness - is unlikely to win much applause from Western leaders, where he is viewed as a clever, unbending diplomat who does not hesitate to challenge their interests.



Primakov: hard-liner

But the liberal Yabloko party and the Communists have indicated they are willing to support him as an alternative candidate to the unpopular Mr Chernomyrdin in a third, final Duma vote. Yabloko's leader, Grigor Yavlinsky, was categorical. In a speech to the Duma, he named the minister as his party's "compromise", saying Russia need-

ed an authoritative premier, known to the world, unaffiliated to any party and with no ambitions to be president.

Until recently, any suggestion that the hang-dog, enigmatic Mr Primakov was in the running would have been met with dismissive guffaws by Moscow's resurgent army of Kremlinologists. Most of the money was - and much still is - on the swashbuckling mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov.

Other possibilities include Yegor Stroyev, chairman of the Federation Council and the outsider, Yuri Maslyukov, the only Communist to serve in the Kiriyenko government.

But Mr Primakov has been quietly eased into the picture. He has been untainted by the brawls and endless horse-trading that characterise domestic politics in Moscow. And his credentials appeal to liberal democrats and the left.

## Star of David rises in an anti-Semitic land

STREET LIFE  
SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

IN ALL THE panic of the economic meltdown and fuss over President Bill Clinton's visit to Moscow last week, an important gesture by President Boris Yeltsin to try to unite Russians and avert neo-fascism went largely unnoticed. Aged, ailing and increasingly unloved, Mr Yeltsin found time on Wednesday to open a new synagogue and Holocaust museum in Moscow's Poklonnaya Gora memorial park.

"Humankind has no right to forget the lessons of history and to repeat tragic mistakes," he told participants at the opening ceremony, including Yuri Luzhkov, Mayor of Moscow, and Natan Sharansky, once a Soviet prisoner-of-conscience and now Israel's Minister of Trade and Industry.

"It is bitter to see that our own home-grown fascists have emerged with their racial and national intolerance," Mr Yeltsin said.

My own Jewish friends welcomed the opening of the \$10m synagogue. But they were under no illusion that the addition of the Star of David to Moscow's skyline of red stars and Orthodox crosses would solve the deep-rooted anti-Semitism in Russia.

"The Nazis will not change," said Solomon Moiseyev, a retired doctor who supplements his tiny pension by giving guided tours to foreigners. Solomon Moiseyev is not his

real name. He is afraid to give that, as recently he has been receiving threats from a petty Russian racketeer, perhaps just wanting to extort money, but probably also motivated by religious hatred.

Anti-Semitism is as strong in Russia today as it was in the rest of Europe before the Second World War - and not only among extreme rightists, who bomb synagogues and desecrate Jewish cemeteries. Because of Soviet propaganda, Russians in general are less aware than other peoples of the extent and horror of the Holocaust. Perfectly pleasant Russians will come out with shocking views on the "Jewish question". As some Bolsheviks were Jewish, many Russians blame all Jews for Communism.

Just as in Western Europe, anti-Semitism became ingrained as the so-called "killers of Christ" were excluded from mainstream society, formed their own tight-knit community, and engaged in business, arousing envy.

In Tsarist times, Jews were not allowed to serve in the army or hold government posts, or to live in Moscow or St Petersburg. So they congregated in cities, like Kharkov and Odessa, becoming financiers, tailors or jewellers.

The Soviet authorities pursued anti-Semitic policies themselves. Even when Stalin

stopped purging the Jews and millions of other Soviet citizens, Jewishness was regarded as a nationality to be noted in a person's internal passport and Jews were passed over for the best educational opportunities and jobs.

Dr Moiseyev was able to enter medicine in the 1950s, but only in lowly epidemiology, improving sanitation.

In the 1970s, many Jews, persecuted for acts of faith such as teaching Hebrew, saw Israel as the answer, but ended up in limbo as "refuseniks", denied visas to leave. I remember how Professor Naum Meiman watched his wife, Inna, die of cancer before her exit visa came through.

Not surprisingly, thousands of Jews left at the first opportunity. But others, especially secular Jews, preferred to stay. Dr Moiseyev and his wife "felt we were too old to start a new life all over again".

Those who stayed made grotesque efforts to be accepted. One converted to Russian Orthodoxy, a musician poured his energy into Celtic music and became thought of as being of Scottish origin.

Russia may be learning to accept its last one million Jews, but the synagogue-museum has to be locked up and under guard when Russians are revelling nearby, as I found at the weekend.

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# BUSINESS

## BRIEFING

### Asia and strong pound hit Castrol

INTERIM PROFITS at Burmah Castrol fell 2 per cent as a stronger pound and weaker sales growth in Asia undercut a global rise in its sales of Castrol-brand motor oils. The world's biggest maker of motor oils for passenger cars said its profits fell from £58.6m to £57.1m before one-time gains during the first half of this year. Stripping away the effects of the sterling, which it estimated cost it £14m, Burmah said its profit would have risen 9 per cent after taxes.

None the less, Tim Stevenson, the chief executive, said Burmah was still committed to expanding in Asia, especially China, which offers "tremendous scale and potential for growth". "If we could turn China into another India, there is the opportunity for some massive growth," he added. In India, Burmah's Castrol brand has market share of around 20 per cent. Burmah also announced a 14p dividend and confirmed its intention to return at least £250m to shareholders after April 1999.

### After Dolly, PPL to work on pigs



PPL Therapeutics, the group which cloned Dolly the sheep to produce high quality protein, hopes to beat rival pharmaceuticals group Novartis in cloning pigs so their hearts can be used for human transplants by 2005.

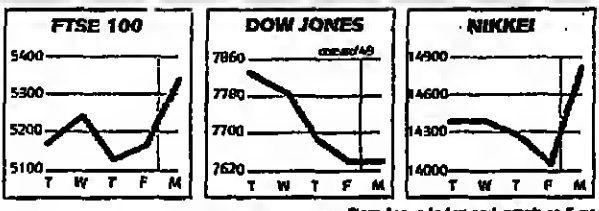
Reporting a £1.7m increase in pre-tax losses to £6.7m for the first half of the year, Ron James, PPL's managing director, said that the next step would be to transplant pigs' kidneys into humans. He added that owing to an acute shortage of human organs, up to 2m patients could benefit from the use of pigs' hearts and kidneys. PPL shares rose 1.5p to 132p.

### Alexon at £2.9m after Dolcis loss

PROFITS at women's fashion retailer Alexon fell from £5.6m to £2.9m as Dolcis, the shoe chain, bought from Sears last year, reported a £4.4m operating loss. Linton-based Alexon said that the streamlining of Dolcis and the opening of its private range would only begin to reap benefits in the second half of year.

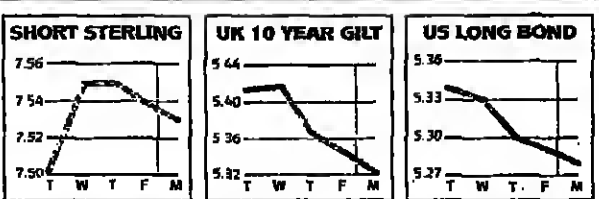
The group, whose pre-tax profits for the 26 weeks to 1 August (excluding Dolcis) rose 24 per cent to £5.9m, also said it was planning to open 12 stores under its Ann Harvey and Kaliko banners during the year. Ann Harvey specialises in larger-fitting womenswear, while Kaliko, caters mainly for women in their thirties. The new stores will be "greenfield" openings, said a spokesman.

## STOCK MARKETS



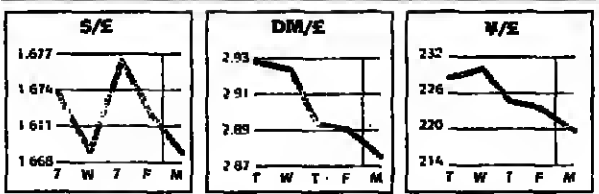
Index	Close	Change	Change(%)	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yield(%)
FTSE 100	5347.00	180.00	3.48	6183.20	4302.80	3.68
FTSE 250	4747.10	83.80	1.80	5970.90	4438.30	4.39
FTSE 350	2549.90	74.70	3.19	2985.10	2141.00	3.90
FTSE All Share	2470.19	73.25	3.06	2986.52	2106.99	3.81
FTSE SmallCap	2084.90	15.70	0.76	2793.80	2044.80	3.96
FTSE Fledgling	1165.20	9.60	0.83	1517.10	1140.20	4.33
FTSE AIM	882.70	11.90	1.37	1146.90	862.80	1.44
FTSE BLOC 100	912.37	11.98	1.33			
Dow Jones	7640.25	+41.97	+0.55	9367.84	6971.32	1.95
Nikkei	14790.06	747.15	5.32	18775.08	13664.74	1.03
Hang Seng	8076.76	589.29	7.86	15242.65	6544.79	5.25
Dax	4923.37	103.12	2.14	6217.83	3467.24	3.26

## INTEREST RATES



Index	3 month	6 month	1 year	10 year	15 year	30 year	Yr Ago
UK	7.56	0.25	7.30	-0.27	5.32	-1.67	-1.90
US	5.99	-0.13	5.47	-0.59	5.01	-1.31	5.28
Japan	0.61	0.04	0.62	-0.04	1.32	-0.95	1.89
Germany	3.48	0.17	3.63	-0.01	4.24	-1.47	5.09

## CURRENCIES



Index	at Spot	Change	Yr Ago
Dollar	1.6689	-0.31c	1.5835
D-Mark	2.8755	-2.81p	2.8642
Yen	219.84	+9.26	191.53
S Index	103.40	-0.90	100.20

## OTHER INDICATORS

Index	Close	Chg	Yr Ago
Brent Oil (\$)	12.93	0.09	18.27
Gold (\$)	288.45	1.60	322.55
Silver (\$)	5.04	0.06	4.70
GDP	115.40	2.60	112.48
RPI	163.00	3.50	157.49
Base Rates	7.50	7.00	

## TOURIST RATES

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia (\$)	2.7165	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.42
Austria (schillings)	19.56	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1416
Belgium (francs)	57.52	New Zealand (\$)	3.1391
Canada (\$)	2.4694	Norway (krone)	12.49
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8193	Portugal (escudos)	282.54
Denmark (krone)	10.68	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0702
Finland (markka)	8.5235	Singapore (\$)	2.7563
France (francs)	9.3389	Spain (pesetas)	236.02
Germany (marks)	2.7946	South Africa (rand)	9.8521
Greece (drachma)	480.23	Sweden (krone)	12.86
Hong Kong (\$)	12.51	Switzerland (francs)	2.2984
Ireland (pounds)	1.1066	Thailand (bahts)	61.60
India (rupees)	65.12	Turkey (liras)	442818
Israel (shekels)	5.9171	USA (\$)	1.6272
Italy (lira)	2757		
Japan (yen)	215.35		
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.0383		
Malta (lira)	0.6181		

Rates for indication purposes only  
Source: Thomas Cook

# Brown scraps plan to raise an extra £3bn from oil tax

THE CHANCELLOR Gordon Brown last night suffered an embarrassing U-turn when he bowed to overwhelming pressure from the oil industry and dropped plans to raise up to £3bn by tightening the North Sea tax regime.

The Government had intended to produce a consultation document for the oil and gas industries in the budget in March.

However, since then the oil price has continued to languish at 25-year lows, making it hard for the Government to persist with its arguments in favour of

BY ANDREW GARFIELD  
Financial Editor

taxing an industry whose profits were already being badly squeezed.

"The Government has been monitoring changes in oil prices and I have concluded that at the current level of oil prices, it would not be right at this stage to proceed with reform of the regime," Mr Brown said.

The decision to shelve the review comes days before the closure of the 18th North Sea oil exploration licence round.

Industry sources said that oil exploration activity in the North Sea had all but dried up over the past 12 months, with the added uncertainty generated by the prospect of higher taxes compounding the effect of oil trading at the lowest levels for a generation.

Wood Mackenzie, the Edinburgh-based oil industry consultancy, estimated that if the government went ahead with the introduction of a supplementary corporation tax of around 10 per cent and a reintroduction of the Petroleum Revenue Tax, the value of the

assets held by oil companies in the North Sea would have been hit to the tune of £3bn.

It was assumed in the industry that the Government was hoping to raise around £1bn a year from the changes.

The Government was also becoming increasingly sensitive to the concerns in Scotland about the damage a tougher tax regime could do to employment in the industry. A total of 380,000 work in the UK oil industry, of which around a third are employed in Scotland.

Last week's 85 per cent

slump in profits at Enterprise Oil, the UK independent, underscored the real pain being felt by the UK industry.

BP Britain's largest integrated oil company and the one which stood to lose most from any changes in the North Sea tax regime, last night welcomed the move.

"We look forward to a period of stability in the UK's tax system which will help encourage investment in Britain's oil and gas industry in what is already a very difficult low price environment," said a spokesman. BP recently shelved plans to

develop the Clair field west of Shetland, while scores of other smaller projects were on hold.

James May, director general of the UK Offshore Oil Association, said: "There was no spare taxable capacity in the UK oil industry. It has to be the right decision," he said.

Mr Brown's decision to drop the scheme will remove one potential new source of revenue to fund government spending plans at a time when the outlook for tax revenue generally is looking less promising because of the forecast economic downturn.

## Shares soar on rates cut hopes

BY ANDREW GARFIELD

SHARES SOARED in London, Hong Kong and Tokyo yesterday as weekend remarks by the chairman of the US Federal Reserve, Alan Greenspan, which indicated he would be ready to cut interest rates if necessary, put some bounce back into jaded stock markets.

The FTSE 100 rose by 180 points to close at 5,347, its second-highest rise in points terms. Shares were helped by growing hopes that UK interest rates are likely to fall. The latest Merrill Lynch/Gallup survey of UK fund managers showed that 98 per cent expect the next rate move to be down.

The pound slipped over two pence to DM2.8755 and half a cent to \$1.6689. The moves announced by Hong Kong over the weekend to reinforce its dollar peg also helped. Asian markets made the biggest gains: Hong Kong's Hang Seng closed up 589.29 points at 8,076.76, a 7 per cent jump, and Tokyo's Nikkei jumped 747.15 points, more than 5 per cent, to end at 14,790.

European markets had a more mixed day, partly reflecting the reluctance of the Bundesbank president, Hans Tietmeyer, to follow Mr Greenspan's lead.

Events in Russia continue to weigh on emerging markets, but their impact on the markets of the developed world has subsided. The UK government has confirmed that it is hosting a meeting of senior finance and foreign ministry officials from the Group of Seven nations in London this weekend.

Not all the news was good. Fitch IBCA, the debt rating agency, said last night that it expected foreign banks to announce further losses in Russia. The agency reckons the total debt owed by Russia to the private sector is now more than \$125bn and that \$100bn of it will not be seen again, making it the biggest-ever loss suffered by private sector creditors.

Yesterday the Russian central bank governor, Sergei Dubinin, resigned as the rouble slumped another 10 per cent to 18.9 to the dollar, taking the fall since the crisis began to nearly 70 per cent. Prospects of a resolution seemed as distant as ever with the parliament again rejecting President Yeltsin's choice of Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister.



A Eurofighter is reflected in the "eye" of a Penguin Mark 3 missile at BAE's stand at the 50th Farnborough Air Show

Brian Harris

## Super Airbus to create 10,000 UK jobs

A NEW European super-jumbo aircraft, code-named the Airbus A3XX, will create around 10,000 highly-skilled and highly-paid jobs in the UK, and protect a further 40,000 in more than 400 UK companies, Airbus Industrie chief executive, Noel Foregard, claimed at the Farnborough Air Show yesterday.

The new double-decker aircraft, carrying 480-600 passengers, could be in service in 2004, he said. Over the next 20 years there will be a market for more than 1,300 aircraft, worth more than £200bn.

Dismissing claims from rival manufacturer Boeing that there is no need for such a large aircraft, Airbus said that from 2004 onward the A3XX is set to become the standard-setter for long-range travel.

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

The new airliner is vital to the future of the Airbus consortium, Mr Foregard said. The economic benefits of the project would last for 40 years and bring in nearly £200bn in export orders.

Earlier the German economics minister, Gunter Rexrodt, said the German government would like to see the super-jumbo jet built in the east German city of Rostock.

Plans to convert Airbus from a partnership into a single limited company which could be floated on the stock markets have slipped until the middle of 1999, Mr Foregard said.

The plans have been held up by the reluctance of two of the partners, BAE and Daimler-Benz Aerospace, to form a joint company before the third key partner, Aerospatiale, is privatised. But a DASA spokesman

yesterday denied French fears that it would merge with BAE without Aerospatiale.

Airbus yesterday confirmed a 3 per cent rise in its aircraft prices to follow a 5 per cent increase announced by Boeing.

Harry Stonecipher, Boeing's president yesterday apologised to customers for delayed deliveries which he blamed on the company's arrogance and self-satisfaction.

## Booker confirms Budgens talks

BOOKER, the struggling cash-and-carry chain, confirmed yesterday that it is in merger talks with the Budgens supermarket group.

The news pushed shares in both companies lower as analysts criticised the logic of the deal.

The all-share merger, which could be announced early next week, would be a reverse takeover, with Booker buying Budgens and Budgens' chief executive, John von Spreckelsen, emerging as head of the enlarged business.

Budgens expects to complete its due diligence by Thursday, when Booker announces its half-year results.

BY NIGEL COPE  
Associate City Editor

Booker shares fell nearly 10 per cent to 170p as analysts said the commercial benefits of the merger were unclear. Budgens shares edged a penny lower to 75.25p.

The City was also critical of Booker's plans to merge with Somerfield before those plans were abandoned last week. Most said the Budgens deal had even less merit.

"Booker must be pretty desperate to be considering this. There cannot be any other offer on the table," one analyst said. Another commented: "At least Somerfield brought scale to the



John von Spreckelsen: to head both businesses

form of £6bn of buying power. This deal does not even have that."

Booker denied weekend

speculation that it is danger of breaching its banking covenants, and it is thought that Budgens advisers, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, have not found a "black hole" in the company's accounts.

However, some analysts remained pessimistic about Booker's finances. "A merger would seem like the only way out for Booker. They have got to the point where trading has become so critical they do not really have an alternative," said Credit Lyonnais analyst Sally Jones.

"I would not be surprised if they had breached their banking covenants," she added. Analysts said Booker's

corner shop customers would be unhappy with the deal as they would be relying on supplies from a cash-and-carry group effectively owned by a key high-street competitor.

When Somerfield broke off talks with Booker last month, a potential backlash from Booker's corner-shop customers was cited as one of the reasons.

Analysts said the merger was an expensive way for Booker to find a new chief executive.

Booker denied that the job had been offered to Andrew Rolfe, 32, a Booker director who left to become chief executive of the Pret à Manger sandwich chain last week.

## AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

### LONDON

THE FTSE-100 yesterday recorded its second-largest points rise, boosted by hints that the US Federal Reserve may lower rates and by large overnight bounces in Tokyo and Hong Kong.

The benchmark index closed up 180 points, or 3.4 per cent, to 5,347.0 - within a whisker of its 181-point record rise achieved in August. The smaller indices were also higher, with the FTSE-250 jumping 83.8 to 4,747.1 and the small cap rising 15.7 to 2,084.9.

Market Report, page 17

### FRANKFURT

AN OVERNIGHT rally in Asian stocks and hints that US rates could soon fall helped German shares to end around 23 per cent higher, with the DAX closing up 103 points at 4,923.4, and the electronic Xetra ending up 80.8 points at 4,945.7.

Banks were marked higher, despite their exposure to Russia, after hints from Alan Greenspan, Federal Reserve chairman, that US rates could be cut sooner than expected. Dresdner Bank leapt 4 per cent.

### TOKYO

THE BENCHMARK Nikkei 225 index posted its second-largest points rise this year, jumping 5.32 per cent to 14,790.06.

Public and corporate pension funds poured money into the futures market to cover short positions ahead of Friday's expiry of index options and futures. The dollar fell on sales by US hedge funds and a late surge in Tokyo stocks: the dollar at one point fell by more than three yen before turning back up to 131.08, off an early high of 134.67.

### HONG KONG

THE HANG SENG index rose almost 8 per cent - its biggest rally in three weeks - after government moves on Saturday to strengthen the currency and dampen swings in interest rates. The steps were aimed at ensuring Hong Kong banks have enough cash when they need it.

The Hang Seng rose 588.29 to 8,076.76, its first close above 8,000 since 24 July. At almost HK\$10bn, trading was the busiest since the government ended a US\$12.5bn buying spree.

### KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIAN SHARES resumed their upward surge as the prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad, took on the mantle of finance minister. Aggressive buying by local institutions and speculative retail players pushed the Composite index of 100 blue-chip stocks up 23 per cent to close at 445.06.

Last week, the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange imposed restrictions which in effect banned trading in its shares outside the country. "They're closing the door," one trader said.



# Stopping BSkyB will not be so easy

EVERYONE'S GOT a view on whether Rupert Murdoch's Sky should be allowed to take over Manchester United, and outside his own newspaper and TV interests, they are mainly negative in the extreme. The task facing regulators is to disentangle this wall of hostility, which is partly emotional in nature, from the real competition and public interest issues raised by Mr Murdoch's latest assault.

Is he going to be allowed to do this, or isn't he? The answer is probably yes, for this is not a clear-cut case and it is hard to see what grounds the competition authorities would have for stopping him.

To many, Mr Murdoch is still a demon focused unrelentingly on world domination. Manchester United, on the other hand, is a much loved national treasure. For these people it's like his acquisition of The Times all over again. Yet it would plainly be bad policy to block BSkyB for this reason alone.

Love him or loathe him, Mr Murdoch occupies an important commercial position in Britain, provides thousands of jobs and has brought about a revolution both in the newspaper industry and commercial TV. He therefore deserves



## OUTLOOK

as fair a hearing as anyone else. Policy cannot be dictated by the mob, however much Mr Murdoch's interests are sometimes responsible for whipping it up.

At the same time, however, Mr Murdoch is also a monopolist by nature and instinct, and his motives therefore demand the closest possible scrutiny. So what does Sky hope to get out of Man United? Its motives appear a mixture of the defensive, pre-emptive and tactical. Live coverage of premier league games is Sky's most lucrative single source of revenue. That contract comes up for renegotiation in 2002, and having Man United? In the same stable could provide an important bar-

gaining chip, if only because the League might find it difficult to cut a deal with anyone else without the support of Manchester United.

The Office of Fair Trading is meanwhile planning to bring the present arrangement between the League and Sky before the Restrictive Practices Court next year. Should that judgement go against the League, and clubs are forced to sell TV rights individually, rather than collectively as a cartel, then again Sky would be sitting pretty as owner of the club everyone wants to play. And finally Sky is always in the market for high quality pay per view content for its new digital platform. Manchester United is nothing if not that.

The first two of these motives will give the Office of Fair Trading enough cause for concern to order a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation, possibly as part of a wider probe into the sort of issues that will be explored by the Restrictive Practices Court next year. But of themselves, they seem too intangible and complex to block the deal altogether.

There are no clear cut competition issues in this combination, only the more difficult ones raised

by vertical integration. Given that broadcasting throughout the world is highly integrated in precisely this fashion, it is not easy to see what grounds there are for preventing it here. If this had been anything other than the explosive combination of Murdoch, TV and football, it would scarcely have raised an eyebrow.

Is there any possibility of counter-bidders? Man United? holds much the same attractions to Britain's fledgling alternative pay TV service, OnDigital, as it does to Sky. But it seems unlikely that either of OnDigital's shareholders, Carlton and Granada, would be prepared to make that kind of financial commitment, notwithstanding the fact that Granada is the ITV franchise holder for the Manchester area and already has commercial links with the club.

Granada once before considered buying Manchester United, but if it rejected the case then when the club was worth only a fraction of what it is now, think how much harder it would be to justify to its shareholders today. Nor would Man United? be worth as much to a financial purchaser, such as Joe Lewis's ENIC, as it would to Sky.

So at this stage, the chances of Mr Murdoch gaining his quarry seem reasonably high. What that's going to do to British football is anyone's guess, but don't expect it to buy up shares in the rest of the sector. There are only three or four clubs in England capable of attracting a big media player like Mr Murdoch, and once he's bought one of them, it is not clear who there is left to buy the rest.

## Booker

THE BOOKER cash-and-carry chain has long been a dismal story of low margins and a declining customer base compounded by management error. But it surely deserves better than this. Snubbed in merger talks by Somerfield, the voracious supermarket group, it is now cosy with sales a tenth of its own.

The all share merger would effectively be a reverse takeover, with Booker taking over Budgens but being run by Budgens' chief executive John von Spreckelsen - in other words, a management buy-in. This is all fine and dandy for Mr von Spreckelsen, but as we have said

here before, it all looks a rather complicated, and expensive way of going about finding a new management team.

If the deal with Somerfield was a hard one to swallow, this one is even harder. At least with Somerfield the merger had the merit of scale. The logic was that the combined buying power of £1.1bn would be sufficient to wring out significant cost savings from suppliers. With Budgens the synergies would be far lower, say £30m a year, though Budgens' trading link with Rewe, the German retail giant, might help bring down Booker's cost base.

There is also the risk of alienating Booker's core corner shop customers, who have understandable concerns that Booker would favour its Budgens subsidiary over other customers. Budgens admitted this was a worry with the Somerfield deal, but now it seems prepared to these concerns aside.

All this seems to indicate that Booker is desperate. To even contemplate a deal like this must mean not only that there is no other buyer in town, but also that the Booker board has no idea how to pull itself out of the mire.

But that does not necessarily

mean that any deal is better than none. For £120m (the cost of Budgens to Booker shareholders), Booker could go out and recruit the most incentivised management team in the land. Not that it should have to. Any competent executive should surely be capable of pushing through the company's stated strategy of selling off the non cash & carry businesses and improving margins.

Booker's own management may well have run out of ideas. Indeed that much now seems certain. But its board - and its highly paid advisers - should be aware that you don't have to buy the company to secure the services of a decent chief executive.

## North Sea oil

IS IT COINCIDENCE that the Government has abandoned its review of North Sea oil tax just as the polls show that the Scottish Nationalists are going to trounce Labour in the election? Or that with the oil price on its knees, the bidding for the 18th round of off-shore licences drawn to a close with hardly a single blue-chip applicant? Surely not.

News Analysis: Pay, inflation and the economy are slowing - but the MPC looks unlikely to act yet

# Clamour for interest rate cut swells

BY LEA PATTERSON

THE BANK of England tomorrow begins its monthly two-day interest-rate setting meeting against a background of global financial turmoil and a slowing domestic economy. Calls for a rate cut grow louder with each day, and it is no longer only union leaders and industry bosses arguing the case for easier interest-rate policy.

Many City economists - several of whom were forecasting further rate rises just a few months ago - now believe the first interest-rate cut could come before year-end, although few believe the Bank will cut this week. And although there may be some debate about timing, the consensus is clear - the next move in rates will be down, not up. Base rates, according to the City, have peaked at 7.5 per cent.

"We've been forecasting a cut in the fourth quarter for some time, although it might be premature to expect it this month," said Marian Bell of Royal Bank of Scotland. "If I were on the MPC [the Bank of England's rate-setting Monetary Policy Committee] I'd certainly be starting to watch for the need for a cut."

Mark Wall at Deutsche Bank agreed the next move would be down, although he was more cautious about the timing. He said: "I do not see the MPC cutting rates this year, although there are huge uncertainties about the global economy."

According to the latest Merrill Lynch/Gallup survey, UK fund managers also see rate cuts ahead - 98 per cent expect the next move to be down, and none of the fund managers surveyed believed that rates would be higher one year from now.

The growing body of evidence suggesting that the domestic economy is slowing is one key factor behind the marked shift in City opinion.

Over the past month both the growth in average earnings and the inflation rate have fallen back, and there has been a raft of gloomy business surveys. Yesterday PricewaterhouseCoopers cut its forecast for 1999 UK GDP growth by 0.5 points to 1 per cent and argued that engineering, construction and textiles were particularly vulnerable to the downturn.

More evidence of the slowdown will come from the British Retail Consortium today. The BRC says August was another



The nine MPC members who meet this week to decide interest rates: (left to right) Dr DeAnne Julius; Professor Charles Goodhart; John Vickers; Mervyn King; the governor of the Bank of England, Eddie George; David Clementi; Ian Plenderleith; Professor Willem Buiter; and Sir Alan Budd

disappointing month for retail sales, with the value of sales increasing by just 1.5 per cent on a like-for-like basis compared with a year earlier. While September's year-on-year growth rate is likely to be more positive - partly because sales last September were depressed by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales - the underlying trend is still firmly downward, according to the BRC.

Bridget Rosewell, the BRC's chief economic adviser, said: "The latest results strengthen

our view that consumers are cautious about their spending and that retail sales growth is generally weakening. Global economic factors do not suggest an early upturn."

But definite evidence of a weakening domestic economy is, on its own, unlikely to be sufficient to persuade the Bank to cut rates just yet, say the experts. The underlying inflation rate may have fallen, but it is still above the 2.5 per cent target. The rate of earnings growth may have fallen back,

but it is still above the 4.5 per cent level the Bank considers incompatible with the inflation target. Many in the City believe unemployment needs to rise further before the Bank will feel comfortable cutting rates.

Richard Iley at ABN Amro said: "Until there is a sharp rise in unemployment, both pay pressures and the spectre of wage-push inflation will persist." Jonathan Loyes at HSBC Securities agreed: "It is not yet clear that the domestic economy has slowed as far as

the hawks on the MPC would like," he said.

The recent fall in sterling, which yesterday shed over 2 pence to close at DM2.8785, could also mean that rates stay higher for longer. Although few believe a weak pound would tip the balance in favour of another rate hike in the current environment, many think it could delay a cut.

"If the pound falls to the low DM2.80s any time soon it will strengthen the resolve of the Bank to keep rates on hold," said

Mark Wall of Deutsche Bank.

However, although the domestic situation on its own may not be sufficient to persuade the Bank to cut rates, a new factor has come into play over the past two weeks - the turmoil in the global financial markets. A few days ago Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve, hinted that the Fed was considering an easier interest-rate policy amid concerns about the impact of the continuing emerging market turmoil on the global economy.

Indeed, in the wake of the 1997 crash the Fed and the Bank cut rates in a concerted attempt to settle the financial markets. Is a similar response likely this time round?

The consensus in the City is that it is too soon to say. Ms Bell said: "The Greenspan signal is, in my view, entirely sensible, but the UK does not feel the same sort of global responsibility as the US." Mr Wall at Deutsche said: "The answer is unknown, the in-

## WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

**HSBC**  
Expert: Jonathan Loyes, HSBC Securities  
Prediction: Rates on hold  
Quote: "But if I were on the MPC, I'd want to see rates come down soon"

**NIKKO**  
Expert: Simon Briscoe, Nikko Europe  
Prediction: Rates on hold  
Quote: "I don't think the time is quite right yet for a cut"

**Deutsche Bank**  
Expert: Mark Wall, Deutsche Bank  
Prediction: Rates on hold  
Quote: "There are huge uncertainties about the global economy"

**The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc**  
Expert: Marian Bell, the Royal Bank of Scotland  
Prediction: Rates on hold  
Quote: "We've been forecasting a cut in the fourth quarter"

**ABN-AMRO Bank**  
Expert: Richard Iley, ABN Amro  
Prediction: Rates on hold  
Quote: "Barring a sharp fall in the exchange rate, rates have now peaked"

**SALOMON SMITH BARNEY**  
Expert: Michael Saunders, Salomon Smith Barney  
Prediction: Rates on hold  
Quote: "We expect base rates to stay on hold until end-1998"

**John Voos**

## IN BRIEF

### Swedish boost for Glaxo drug

SHARES IN Glaxo Wellcome, the world's second-biggest drug maker, rose 25p to 1.840p after it said it had won approval for Seretide, its treatment for asthma, in Sweden.

Sweden is the first country to approve the drug and will act as the reference state in the procedure to obtain approval in the European Union. Seretide is the first drug to allow asthma sufferers to achieve 24-hour control of the condition with a twice-daily dose from a single inhaler, Glaxo said.

### Reinsurance fall

THE GLOBAL reinsurance industry had its best-ever year in 1997, but declining rates, falling demand and dwindling investment returns mean that the outlook for the sector is bleak, the ratings agency, Standard and Poor's, said yesterday.

"We can expect rates to fall between 5 and 10 per cent, and that's going to put some pressure on the industry," said S&P director, Don Watson.

He added that turmoil in world equities meant reduced underwriting results would not be buoyed up by investment returns.

### Xenova offers

XENOVA is to raise £16.3m to develop its drugs to treat cancer. The biotech company said it would sell 9.5 million "units" - comprising two new shares and one warrant - at 110p each. It will also sell warrants at 70p each to raise £5.7m by the end of 1999.

The offer is being fully underwritten by Xenova's broker, Greig Middleton, and is subject to shareholder approval at an extraordinary meeting scheduled for 30 September.

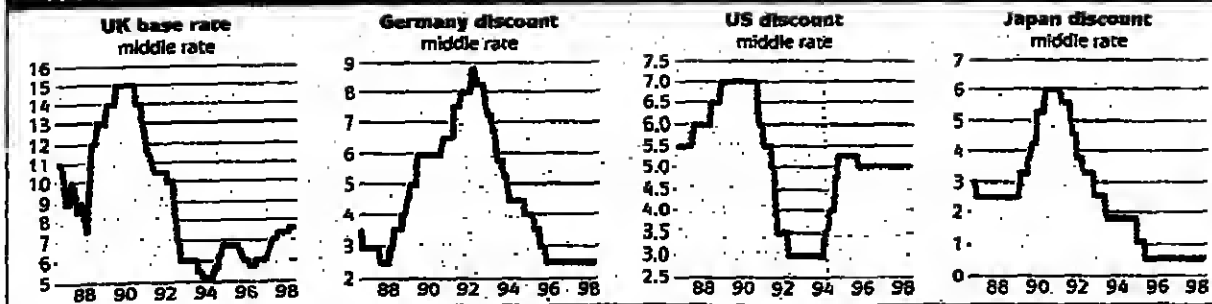
### ABB contract

ABB ASEA BROWN BOVERI announced yesterday that it has won a turnkey contract valued at \$80m (£48m) from the Channel Islands Electricity Grid Co to build a new power grid.

Under the terms of the contract, ABB said it will link the electricity supply networks of Guernsey and Jersey islands in the English Channel to the European grid via France.

The project is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2000.

## HOW BRITISH INTEREST RATES COMPARE WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD



## STANDARD LIFE BANK

It's our business to make your money make money

BALANCE	NET ANNUAL INTEREST	NET MONTHLY INTEREST
£1 - £49,999	7.25	5.81
£50,000 - £99,999	7.30	5.84
£100,000 - £499,999	7.32	5.86
£500,000 - £999,999	7.35	5.90
£1,000,000+	7.35	5.94

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A&P (Kmart) Stores Inc.										Chaffey Park										Food City Stores Inc.										Food City Stores Inc.									
Assets	23,310	40.5	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	72.56	72.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.56	72.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.56	72.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Liabilities	149.40	149.40	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Equity	23,310	23,310	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Assets	23,310	23,310	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Liabilities	149.40	149.40	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
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Assets	23,310	23,310	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Liabilities	149.40	149.40	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Equity	23,310	23,310	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Assets	23,310	23,310	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,310	23,310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Liabilities	149.40	149.40	0.00	5.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	149.40	149.40	0.00	0.00	0.00																									

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British  
Doeflex

Rodder on



executive, John Sunderland, said the company was looking to take advantage of falling asset prices around the world. The Far East is seen as a possible target as prices fall as a result of the economic turmoil in the region.



"The first six months have been very encouraging, with all ports making a positive contribution to profits," said Bill Thomson, chairman of Fort Ports. "We have seen increases in our dry cargo tonnage as our recent capital investments come to fruition."

"Progress on the new Finnish Terminal is on schedule and operations will commence in January."

Mr Gilbertson said the company was not taking a punt on its share price. It is to facilitate a transaction."

Mr Mengel said he did not see any sign of the widely-predicted economic slowdown.

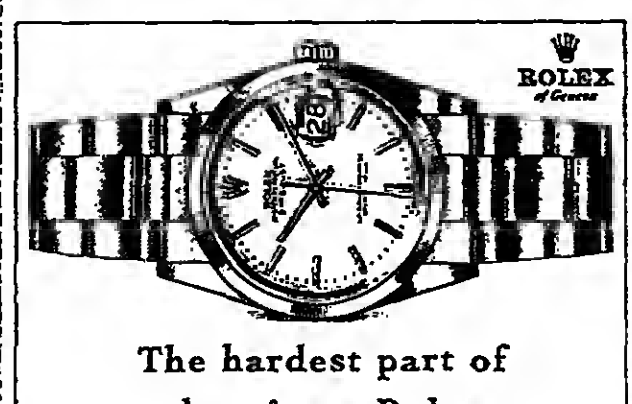
**0800**  
**771107**

**Bones**, John le Carré's *Single and Single* and autobiographies from Will Carling and Sir Edward Heath. The tale of a travelling graffito is also being tipped as a Christmas best-seller: Michael Allin's *Zoraffu* is the story of a graffito given to France's Emperor Charles X by an Egyptian potentate.

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16/SHARES				16/SHARES				16/SHARES				16/SHARES			
High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
<b>MAIN MOVERS</b>															
<b>RISES</b>															
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>FALLS</b>															
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
<b>MARKET LEADERS</b>															
<b>TOP 20 VOLUMES at 5pm</b>															
<b>RISE HOUR BY HOUR</b>															
<b>FALLS HOUR BY HOUR</b>															
<b>GOVERNMENT SECURITIES</b>															
<b>INDEXED</b>															
<b>PERPETUAL</b>															
<b>SHARES</b>															
<b>RECENT ISSUES</b>															
<b>SHARE PRICE DATA</b>															
<b>THE INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE - TEL 0801 - 301 3000</b>															



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Billie  
with a



# A little bit of sparkle back in Footsie

UNCLE ALAN GREENSPAN came to the Footsie's rescue yesterday and helped the index to its second biggest jump in its history. The Fed chairman's hint that US rates may be on a downward slope soothed the index's frayed nerves and tempted back a selected group of buyers.

Volume was thin, though, as the Russian parliament vote on the prime minister and the closure of Wall Street conspired to keep trade subdued. Most of the big hitters are back from their holidays, but remained firmly on the sidelines yesterday, and witty souls in the City described the bounce as a "seller's strike".

Footsie remained blissfully ignorant of these smears and powered ahead, closing up 130 to 5347.0, within a whisker of its 181-point record rise achieved on August 18. It was a sparkling performance, even better than the 142 point rebound which followed the 1987 crash. The second-liners hang on their Big Brother's coat-tails and finished with handsome advances. The medium cap finished 83.8 points ahead at 4747.1, while the small cap, that eternal under-

## MARKET REPORT



FRANCESCO GUERRERA

achiever, managed a 15.7 rally to 2084.9.

Buying was confined to a small number of sectors, led by banks. Lloyds TSB proved the pick of the UK high-streeters, netting a 54.5p profit to 713p. Barclays was in good form, too, climbing 6.34p to 1,308p as traders started to put last week's Russian exposure shock behind them.

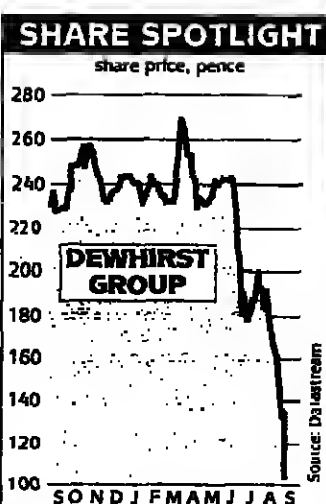
The Asian banks were given added sparkle by large overnight bounces in the Nikkei and Hang Seng indexes. HSBC Holdings,

the owner of Midlands Bank, got the better deal and closed up 10p to 1,243p, the biggest riser in the Footsie. Standard Chartered followed suit, aided by some directors' share-buying, and closed 7.31p to 448p.

The chosen few who decided to buy were also interested in telecoms. Vodafone, the mobile phone operator, rang up a 9.4p rise to 1,055p, as rumours of a tie-up with the US giant AirTouch filled the City's airwaves. Cable & Wireless was busy too. It ended up 44p to 627p, unabated by a denial of a rumour of tie-up with Telecom Italia and US West.

Smithkline Beecham and Zeneca flew the flag for the pharmaceuticals. SBI finished a healthy 57p higher to 783p, as you've guessed it, renewed rumours of a link-up with arch-enemy Glaxo Wellcome. Zeneca, the sector's favourite takeover target, rose 122p to 2,314p on vague talk of corporate activity.

BSkyB's attempt to takeover Manchester United football club provided much of the excitement in the undercard. The Red Devils



scored 30p to 206.5p, topping the FTSE-250 league of risers, but ended up still below Sky's mooted 225p-a-share offer.

The media group controlled by Rupert Murdoch was also in the picture and rose 14.75p to 476.75p. Enic, the leisure group, which could be Mr Murdoch's bitter rival in the battle of Old Trafford, was up 9.5p to 128.5p. They are not com-

menting on a counterbid, but the market seems convinced that it will come soon.

The real comeback kids of the day were the other Footsie stocks, which have been badly battered in recent times. Rumours of takeovers and mergers in the usually-sleepy sector pushed up many a bombed-out stock. Newcastle United was up 5p to 67.5p. Tottenham Hotspur scored a 4p victory to finish at 64p, while Aston Villa, one of the hottest takeover candidates, soared 52.5p to 615p. British V20 contained the top spot in the FTSE-250, and in the end closed 13p higher to 230p after announcing a bid for rival plastic group Döcker.

The Footsie rejig, due on Wednesday, continued to muddy waters. Lloyds, the oil explorer, lost another 2p to close at 135p. At close of play the widely expected relegation to the FTSE-250 duly arrived. Torotrak, the maker of a futuristic gearbox which demerged from BTG two months ago made way for Lasso in the mid-cap and moved to the small cap. The shares had closed 1p higher at 163.5p.

But the real story is Telewest. The cable operator could be a surprise inclusion in the benchmark index. A share conversion following its deal with General Cable will push Telewest's market cap above £2.8bn, well beyond the Footsie threshold. The shares firmed 3.75p to 135.75p.

A few dots of red in yesterday's sea of blue caught the eye. Rentokil Initial tumbled 9p to 347p after CSFB said "sell". Booker, the cash-and-carry business locked in merger talks with the supermarket Budgens, fell 18p to 170p, after Credit Lyonnais turned negative on the no-premium deal.

Dewhurst, the clothing and toiletries group which supplies Marks & Spencer, had a horrible day. A fall in interim profits and a warning on full-year operating earnings saw the stock end almost 19p lower at 105.5p.

BT Alex Brown warned that falling tomato prices and poor summer trading will affect profits. SEAG VOLLME: 235.3m. SEAG TRADES: 54,511. GILT INDEX: N/A.

IT'S TIME to stop checking out of the hotel sector, says broker BT Alex Brown. BT's analysis said the sector's derating "has been savage". They think the fall in Ladbroke, Millennium & Copthorne and the like is a buying chance, but admit the market is "in no mood to contemplate catching the falling knife that is the hotel sector" for some time.

ENGRAVERS are not usually a hub of corporate activity, but Palatine Engraving Company proved the exception. The Liverpool specialist in printing and printing card engraving was bought by the printing goods supplier, Fairfield Enterprise, for £2.6m. Fairfield rose 2p to 117.5p.

SAFESTORE, an AIM-listed operator of storage facilities, could be a bid target. The smart money is in a Security Capital, a US group, which bought Arora and Abacus, two of Safestore's rivals. Safestore shares closed flat at 65p.

## Billiton springs to life with a groundbreaker

IT'S NO SURPRISE that investors are wary of Billiton. Shares in the South African mining group, spun off from Gencor last summer, have almost halved in value since they started trading in London.

This is partly the result of the Asian downturn, which has hammered commodity prices. But the underperformance is also due to Billiton's reluctance to spend some of its \$1bn cash pile on acquisitions.

To be fair, Billiton has not been completely idle. In the past year it has sanctioned capital projects worth \$2.7bn (£1.6bn) while quietly buying several minority shareholdings.

Yesterday, however, may mark a turning point in Billiton's stock market fortunes. Suddenly it sprang into life, making a bid for the 47 per cent of Australian miner QNI that it does not already own.

At the same time it unveiled an innovative plan that will allow it to buy back and reissue shares at will - a move that will gear up its balance sheet in the short term but not prevent it from being able to do large deals as they arise.

All this after Billiton reported a 44 per cent jump in pre-exceptional attributable profits on a 3 per cent increase in turnover.

Ultimately, Billiton's fortunes remain determined by trends in global commodity prices. Although there is little immediate prospect of a recovery, they are also unlikely to fall much further. With its cash pile, Billiton should be able to pick up decent assets at a reasonable cost.

Billiton shares, which had already bounced back from their low point as investors sought desperately for a safe haven from the global market turmoil, added another 4p yesterday to close at 126.5p.

Investors hoping for a rapid recovery in the share price could be disappointed: on a forward multiple of less than 10 times earnings, Billiton offers good long-term value.

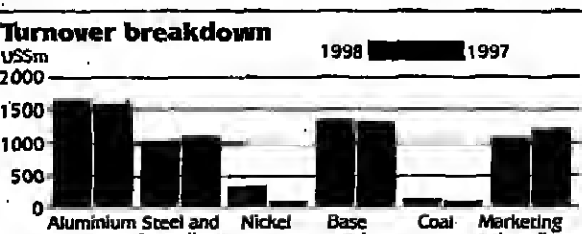
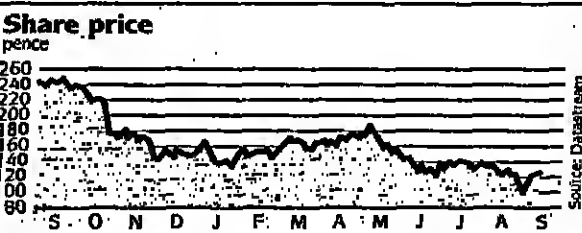
## INVESTMENT

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN

### BILLITON AT A GLANCE

Market value: £2.68bn, share price 126.5p (+4p)

Trading record	1995	1996	1997	1997	1998
Turnover (\$bn)	1.36	4.33	5.19	5.29	5.45
Pre-tax profits (\$m)	272.00	516.00	921.00	943.00	838.00
Earnings per share (c)	-	-	-	35.50	22.90
Dividends per share (c)	-	-	-	-	10.50



## Bodycote can take the heat

IS THERE life after Joe Dwek? The chairman of Bodycote yesterday announced his retirement after 26 years during which, through a string of acquisitions, he transformed the heat processing group from a small regional player into a truly international company.

The benefits of the strategy were on display yesterday as Bodycote unveiled half-year figures. In the six months to 30 June profits from ongoing businesses rose by 26 per cent to £28m, while last year's acquisitions brought in a further 4p increase. Add in a lower interest bill and profits before tax were up by 61 per cent to £38.1m.

HIT, the French business bought in January for £80m, increased its profits by 40 per cent. Thermal Processing, bought a month later, is already contributing to growth.

But the real secret is in Bodycote's 161 plants serving 17 countries and trading in 17 currencies, and in its six different divisions from heat treatment and brazing to materials testing and metallurgical coatings. Only 24 per cent of profit is generated in the UK, which allows Mr Dwek to be relatively relaxed about a hard landing in the UK economy.

Capital expenditure is expected to grow by 50 per cent to £70m in the current year, of which almost half has already been spent. Almost all of the £89m raised by the rights issue in January has been committed, but the company is currently unencumbered, and says managing director John Chesworth, several more small acquisitions are likely this year, especially in North America.

Investors shrugged off the news of Mr Dwek's departure, pushing the shares up 50p to 98p as analysts upgraded profit forecasts to £77m for the full

year and £90m for 1999. The shares, which are still 25 per cent below their recent peak, now trade on a forward earnings multiple of 16. Given Bodycote's track record, the shares are good value.

## Hodder result is a good read

AFTER ITS profits warning in 1995 Hodder Headline, the book publisher, has been recovering steadily. Its shares have risen by a third in the past year, outperforming the market by 28 per cent. The collapse of the Net Book Agreement is helping sales of mass market titles where Hodder is strong with authors such as Stephen King and Tom Clancy. And the dash to open book supermarkets by retailers such as Waterstone's and Borders, the US group, is stimulating book buying.

Tim Hely Hutchinson, Hodder's chief executive, reckons the UK book market will grow by 5 to 6 per cent this year, a healthy trend in a mature market. Sales in July and August were "reasonably firm", he says, contradicting reports of a slowdown.

Hodder's half-year figures underlined the progress: pre-tax profits shot up by 70 per cent to £2.2m. The rise was fuelled by a strong first half set of new titles, which included hardbacks from TV chef Sophie Grigson and paperbacks such as Josephine Cox's *Miss You Forever*.

Asia will probably only account for 3 per cent of Hodder's sales this year compared to the usual 6 per cent. The financial turmoil in the region has hit demand in Australia and New Zealand. Hodder is establishing a joint venture there to reduce costs, but the dent to profits could keep second-half figures at the same level as last year.

On full-year profit forecasts of £9m, the shares - up 10p to 250p yesterday - trade on a forward multiple of 14. After their strong run they are probably only a hold now.

## IN BRIEF

### Laing and Hyder form PFI venture

THE CONSTRUCTION company, John Laing, has teamed up with the utilities business Hyder to form a new company, Laing Hyder, to pursue opportunities under the Government's private finance initiative (PFI). Laing Hyder is developing bids for eight projects in its target sectors of education, health, courts, emergency services and government buildings.

### Photobition up

PHOTOBITION, the media services group, unveiled pre-tax profits of £9.8m for the 15 months to the end of June, against £7.5m in the year to end-March 1998. The chief executive and chairman, Eddie Marchbanks, said current trading was in line with expectations and the group had seen no signs of a slowdown. The group, which last week bought US graphic display group Katz Digital Technologies for £28m, said recent falls in its share price, from a high of 333p in May, had pushed it towards the use of debt rather than new shares for acquisitions. The shares closed at 222p.

### Bryant to £53m

PRE-TAX PROFITS at Bryant rose from £38.6m to £53.3m in the year to May, the building construction group said yesterday. Operating profits at the homes division rose to £60.8m (£42.1m) as turnover rose 5 per cent to £508.7m, on the back of a 7.6 per cent rise in the average house selling price to £124,800. The other division, construction, reported an operating profit of £1.7m (£2m).

### Frogmore's swap

FROGMORE ESTATES has bought 18 properties from Henderson Investors for £16.3m cash and exchanged contracts to sell two office buildings in Slough town centre to Henderson for £12.05m cash. The acquisition, a mixed portfolio of office and retail properties, generates rental income of about £1.52m.

## Kingfisher chief swans to a Rolex

CONGRATULATIONS to Sir Geoff Mulhally, chief executive of Kingfisher, who has just done well in one of the world's poshest yacht races. When not worrying about the price of beans at Woolworths and if B&Q is shifting enough ceramic tiles, Sir Geoff is a keen sailor.

Last week he came third in the Swan World Championships in Sardinia, run out of Porto Cervo, a millionaire's playground developed by the Aga Khan, where "it's a lot easier to buy a fur coat than a pint of milk", according to a regular.

Having steered one of his two very expensive yachts, "Noonmark VI" into contention last week, Sir Geoff's winnings included a Rolex watch. Not that a man who regularly earns £1m a year will be desperate for a new timepiece.

City observers know Sir Geoff well as a paper-clip chewer and as the man who once installed his own central heating. It is not so well known that in the last two or three years he has begun to take sailing "very seriously indeed", according to a colleague. In the early '90s during the Dixons bid he christened one of his boats "No Comment" in a wry reaction to constant questioning from reporters. In 1992 he toyed with the idea of committing Kingfisher to sponsor Britain's entry to the America's Cup in 1992.

Earlier this year Sir Geoff narrowly missed winning a car at Cork Week, a race meeting held every two years in the Irish port. Ford sponsors the meeting (known by locals as "Ford Week") and quietly launched two new global models there recently, the Cougar and Falcon.

The entrepreneurial Sir Geoff even charts some of his yachts out when he's not racing them himself. Knowing him, he probably makes a profit on that as well.

CONGRATULATIONS also to Joe Dwek, who has retired as chairman of Bodycote, the metal processing group, after 26 years in office. Mr Dwek was heading this remarkably successful company just as Britain

## PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK



JIM MERCER, chief executive of British Vita, the Manchester based plastics manufacturer whose two year old £66 million bid for rival plastics maker Döcker finally came to fruition yesterday, said it was "only the second biggest bid in Manchester at the moment".

With a tongue firmly in his cheek, Mr Mercer says his bid is the best for Mancunians (as opposed to some other chap's bid for a certain footy team) but as a keen supporter of Bolton Wanderers he isn't quite as emotionally involved as most of the city's inhabitants.

was readying itself for the oil crisis, the secondary banking crisis, the miners' strike and the three-day week. Current events in Russia will probably leave Mr Dwek unimpressed.

He said yesterday: "I will take with me some very happy memories of exciting times and, as ever, I will be wishing the group continued success".

TOBY THORNTON has left Panmure Gordon's smaller companies research team to join ABN AMRO next Monday, rounding off a year or so of defections from that desk.

Patrick Orr left Panmure's smaller companies operation to join rival stockbrokers Raphael

Zorn Hemsley Sara Wigglesworth, who joined Panmure in 1991 from Credit Lyonnais, just left the City to spend more time with her family. And Charlie Campbell went to Warburg Dillon Read last October.

Not to worry. A Panmure source says that three high-profile replacements are "on their way". Watch this space.

JULIA CHAIN, who stood down as managing partner of law firm Garretts in July, has resurfaced as general counsel for One 2 One, the telecoms joint venture between Cable & Wireless and US West.

Garretts has had an unhappy time of late. It was built up by its parent, the giant accountancy firm Andersen Worldwide, only to be thrown into turmoil when Andersen decided to open merger talks with City law firm Wilde Sapte.

The proposed link with Wilde Sapte put a huge question mark over Ms Chain and her colleagues. In the event the merger talks fell apart in June. Now the frustrated accountants appear to be mounting a shake-up at Garretts, despite the fact that the firm lies just outside the UK's top 20 in fee income.

To add insult to injury, Andersen have imposed an accountant to run Garretts, Peter Ridley was officially appointed managing director last autumn, but his role expanded on Ms Chain's departure.

How all this will help to attract high flying lawyers to Garretts remains to be seen.

HOW NICE it must be to be Remi Krug, heir to the French Champagne house. The members of the French luxury association, Comité Colbert, have just elected Mr Krug as its new chairman. The committee is made up of 75 of the top luxury companies and vigorously campaigns to protect them with the message: "Centering on emotions and sensations generated by all creations constituting French Art de Vivre... in a major exhibition *Theatre des Sens* in Paris." Makes a change to the Car Show at the NEC!

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Country	Sterling	1 month	3 month	Dollar	1 month	3 month	D-Mark	Spot
UK	1.0000			0.5992	0.6001	0.6020	0.3474	
Australia	2.8274	2.8235	2.8153	1.5942	1.5945	1.5949	0.8821	
Canada	59.596	59.594	59.593	12.147	12.145	12.141	0.7047	
France	164.661	164.658	164.656	35.290	35.288	35.284	0.2621	
Germany	163.252	163.249	163.247	5.715	5.713	5.711	0.2820	
Italy	146.628	146.625	146.623	6.5630	6.5622	6.5613	3.8083	
Japan	146.628	146.625	146.623	1.1409	1.1407	1.1405	0.0174	
Netherlands	146.628	146.625	146.623	5.2408	5.2402	5.2397	0.0174	
Spain	146.628	146.625	146.623	5.7817	5.7811	5.7805	3.3517	
Sweden	146.628	146.625	146.623	1.2290	1.2282	1.2274	0.0174	
Switzerland	146.628	146.625	146.623	1.7000	1.6998	1.6996	0.0174	
US	1.6669			0.9472	0.9475	0.9478	0.5200	

## INTEREST RATES

Country	Base	7.50%	Discount	2.50%	US Prime	8.50%	Japan	Discount	0.50%
UK	Base	7.50%	Discount	4.50%	Fed Funds	5.44%	Discount	2.75%	
Germany	Base	7.50%	Discount	6.00%	10-1 Repo	5.00%	Discount	3.50%	
France	Base	7.50%	Discount	3.75%	Repo/Wee	4.10%	Discount	3.63%	
Italy	Base	7.50%	Discount	3.75%	Repo/Wee	4.10%	Discount	3.63%	
Spain	Base	7.50%	Discount	3.75%	Repo/Wee	4.10%	Discount	3.63%	
Sweden	Base	7.50%	Discount	3.75%	Repo/Wee	4.10%	Discount	3.63%	
Switzerland	Base	7.50%	Discount	3.75%	Repo/Wee	4.10%	Discount	3.63%	
US	Base	7.50%	Discount	3.75%	Repo/Wee	4.10%	Discount	3.63%	

## BOND YIELDS

3 mth	8.50%	Japan	0.50%
discount	0.00%	Belgium	
and Funds	5.44%	Discount	2.75%
		Central	3.30%
10 mth	4.25%	Switzerland	
10 mth	4.10%	Discount	1.00%
		Lombard	3.63%

FIELDS				
	3 yr	chg	10 yr	chg
-0.26	5.27	-0.26	5.48	-0.20
-0.02	3.96	0.01	4.50	-0.01
0.02	5.52	0.02	5.49	0.00
0.00	4.04	0.05	4.42	0.00
0.00	3.93	-0.08	4.37	-0.01
0.00	3.91	0.00	4.24	0.01
-0.04	4.21	-0.04	4.68	-0.02
-0.02	4.01	-0.02	4.32	-0.01
-0.01	3.93	-0.03	4.37	-0.01
-0.01	4.61	-0.02	4.61	-0.02
-0.03	4.62	-0.02	4.92	-0.01
-0.03	2.18	-0.03	2.89	0.00
-0.06	5.65	-0.06	5.32	-0.08
-0.06	4.69	-0.02	5.01	-0.02

## LIFE FINANCIAL FUTURES

Contract	Settlement					
Long Gilt	Sep-98	112.39				
5 Yr Gilt	Sep-98	105.46				
German Bund	Sep-98	112.79				
Italian Bond	Sep-98	123.01				
Japan Govt Bd	Sep-98	135.57				
3 Mth Sterling	Sep-98	92.47				
3 Mth Eurodollar	Dec-98	92.82				
	Sep-98	92.50				
	Oct-96	96.45				
3 Mth Eurodollar	Sep-98	95.04				
	Dec-98	96.73				
3 Mth Euroyen	Sep-98	96.73				
3 Mth Euroyen	Sep-98	98.27				
3 Mth Euroyen	Dec-98	98.28				
3 Mth Euro	Sep-98	95.84				
	Oct-98	95.84				
FTSE 100	Sep-98	5358.00				
LIFE FTSE 100						
Settlement Price: 5347.00						
Series	Setp	Imp Vol	Pur	Imp Vol		
33330	308	41	49	39		
33350	268	40	58	38		
33350	232	28	73	37		
33350	196	37	87	36		



## SPORT

# How Murdoch has changed the face of British sport

Has Sky's wall-to-wall coverage set new standards in coverage... or is the broadcaster taking sport downhill? Independent writers analyse the evidence

## FOOTBALL

IN THE six years since Rupert Murdoch and English football joined forces through the creation of the Premier League and the television deal struck with BSkyB, the game in this country has been transformed by its new-found wealth. Clubs can afford top foreign players and their astronomical wages, while the continental exodus of the best of British talent has all but dried up.

Overseas stars were by no means new to English football, but the signing of Dennis Bergkamp by Arsenal and Ruud Gullit by Chelsea led to importing on an unprecedented scale. Now it is rare for any Premier League club not to have foreign players, and in Chelsea's case it would be no surprise if they fielded a team without one English-qualified player at some stage this season. While the fans are reveling in it, the consequences for the national team are yet to be fully appreciated.

Foreign managers like Gullit, now at Newcastle, and Arsène Wenger of Arsenal are also becoming commonplace, bringing fresh ideas, dietary programmes and training methods that in many cases have already led to a new lease of life for players approaching their mid-thirties.

Although much of the money has gone on hiring internationals like Fab-



Satellite television crews gather outside Old Trafford yesterday to cover the developing story of BSkyB's move to take control of Manchester United

## SKY'S SPORTING YEAR

Football	2,900 hours
Golf	2,100
Cricket	1,300
Rugby Union	650
Rugby League	600
Tennis	400
Ice hockey	380
Boxing	375
Basketball	250
Horse racing	2,000

Sky's three sports channels broadcast a total of 16,000 hours of sport in the 1997 calendar year. This list of the 10 leading sports shows the total number of hours of transmission in 1997.

\* Shared with Box Office

rizio Ravanelli, reportedly paid £40,000 per week during his one-year stay at Middlesbrough, some has also filtered through to the stadiums which has improved the level of spectator enjoyment and justified, to some extent, the rising cost of attending Premiership football. Furthermore it could be argued that the promotion of the game in the media has never been better. Attendance figures are on the up, but not even Murdoch would claim all the credit.

However, there is a downside. Many fans are unhappy about the constant re-scheduling of games to suit the demands of live television, with matches on Monday and Friday evenings, Sunday afternoons and even Saturday mornings. In addition, the Sky money is widening divisions in the game.

"It's a very traditional game and

sometimes change doesn't come that easily," Brendan Batson, the deputy chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, said. "We can't turn the clock back but tradition is a very important part of our national game and the traditional thinking is that games are played on a Saturday afternoon at three o'clock. With the amount of investment from television companies you expect them to have a say in the way the game is run, but we have to make sure the balance doesn't get too one-sided in favour of the TV companies."

Sky has worked hard on presentation to satisfy the armchair supporter by including in its innovative coverage varied camera angles and intricate replay techniques that provide their audience with views that are not available to most in the stadium. The effervescent former Scotland international Andy Gray has become a cult figure through his operation of video replay machines that allow him, as the main studio analyst, to dissect the game and develop points in a way that was not possible before.

Thanks to Sky's financial input smaller clubs in the Nationwide League are undoubtedly better off than they were, but the gap between them and their Premiership counterparts is growing all the time. Even within the Premiership there are clear divisions; a look at which clubs have actually won the Premiership shows how important money is becoming. Variety, one of British football's greatest assets, is in obvious danger.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

NO SPORT has been crash-tackled by Rupert Murdoch quite like rugby league. In April 1985, against the background of News Corporation's attempts to hijack the game and its lucrative TV rights in Australia, the Rugby Football League in Britain accepted an offer of £87m from BSkyB for a new five-year television deal.

It was an unheard of sum of money for a sport accustomed to counting its pennies, even if it squandered its pounds, but this was no ordinary TV contract. It involved breaking the habits of 100 years by switching to a summer season - although advocates of that change insisted that it would happen anyway.

Since the deal was designed to isolate the Australian Rugby League, it specified that Great Britain could play only Super League opposition at international level. Most controversially of all, in its original form it involved existing clubs merging to form new entities to play alongside London, Paris and Toulouse in a European Super League.

Club chairman voted for that radical plan in order to get their hands on the £87m, but they could not deliver their side of the bargain. Mergers were howled down by opposition within the game, but London and Paris were included in the competition when it kicked off for its first summer season in 1996.

Producing a national - indeed a trans-national - competition was part of the deal with Sky. Again, the

game has been unable to deliver. Paris went to the wall after two years of mismanagement and French farce; London soldier on with considerable success on the field, but little impact off it; Gateshead will be the only new club, when they join Super League next season.

Overall, the legacy of Murdoch and his millions has been mixed. It is hard to imagine the game now without his monthly cheques, even if much of the money has gone in players' "loyalty" bonuses and inflated wages.

Some clubs, like the Bradford Bulls, have seized the opportunity and thrived under the new regime. Others are still adapting, whilst bitterness still lingers amongst some of the clubs excluded.

The game's international programme has been shot to pieces, without that breaking the ARL. They and Super League have reached an uneasy compromise, under which Test rugby will hopefully be restored to its old status.

Peace, of a sort, in Australia carried dangers, though, in a country which was merely a pawn in a bigger game. It was with relief that the sport here was able to announce a three-year extension to the Sky deal this summer, albeit at a lower sum per season.

The game has suffered through a shortage of terrestrial coverage, although that could be addressed by a highlights package on BBC next year.

Dave Hadfield

## RUGBY UNION

THE EFFECT of the Dirty Digger's rugby revolution in the British Isles has been profound. BSkyB has not merely turned over the topsoil of the sport but rearranged its foundations.

A little over three years ago Murdoch cemented a 10-year deal in Johannesburg worth US\$550m (£345m) with Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. It was small beer compared with the £1.5bn he shelled out for his NFL broadcasting rights, but it was more than enough to crack the union code wide open.

The cathartic result was the collapse of "amateurism", but it was replaced by a merciless brand of market-force professionalism. England may be big and strong enough to play commercial hardball but Wales, Scotland and Ireland are on their knees and sinking fast.

Within a year of the Jo'burg accord, Murdoch had successfully tempted England's Rugby Football Union with an £87.5m carrot. It gave him exclusive rights to every Twickenham international. The message was clear: England, with their six million plus viewers, were the priority on the rugby shopping list, with the poor old Celts down among the shampoo and loo paper.

The question with which the unions have been wrestling concerns their ability to "grow" a fledgling professional sport without the help of terrestrial television. They are beginning to realise that they cannot

Chris Hewett

## CRICKET

SKY SPORTS has demonstrated the ability to reach those parts of cricket around the world that other broadcasters either cannot - or cannot be bothered to - reach.

The sum of £56m was paid to the then Test and County Cricket Board at the start of a four-year deal, split approximately £35m-£25m between the BBC and Sky. BBC secured the live rights for the Tests, NatWest Trophy and some Sunday League cricket.

Sky gave viewers something which was never a part of the BBC remit: bringing summer to the northern hemisphere winter and screening more domestic competitions. Until the winter of 1990 England's overseas tours had been a visual mystery to the fans stuck in a cold climate. BSkyB changed all that and this year will be covering a third Ashes tour.

To date, Murdoch's men have put the County Championship on the schedule and broadcast women's cricket, with coverage of the Ashes series. There has also been extensive airtime given to the Benson and Hedges Cup, Sunday League cricket and a regular magazine programme, *The Pavilion End*.

Its innovative camera angles and other technical and technological refinements have all helped to make the game, one-day or first-class, more interesting to the watch. The net result is a raising of the game's profile and a solid financial footing for the base of the pyramid.

David Llewellyn

## BOXING

THE IMPACT of satellite television, and particularly of Sky Sports, on British boxing depends entirely on which side of the fence an interested party sits. Those involved with the promoter Frank Warren, who has an exclusive deal with Sky, are sitting pretty. Apart from the odd crumb, all the others are out in the cold.

Satellite TV, while filling some coffers in the short term, marginalises boxing and causes concern for the future of the sport. When Naseem Hamed, British boxing's biggest star, fought on ITV, he was watched by upwards of 10m viewers. His appearances on Sky pay-per-view have seen that drop below one million.

Sky's "poaching" of fighters who built their careers on ITV has played a large part in the terrestrial network's withdrawal from boxing over the last four years. And it is conspicuous that Sky have been unable to build fighters and make them into household names in the manner that ITV and BBC were able to do.

When Warren took his stable to Sky, he reasoned that only a dedicated sports channel had the time and resources to develop the stars of tomorrow. The biggest stars in British boxing over the last decade - Frank Bruno, Nigel Benn, Chris Eubank, Lennox Lewis and Hamed - all came to prominence on terrestrial TV. The void resulting from its withdrawal is one that boxing will live with for years to come.

Glyn Leach

## ICE HOCKEY

ICE HOCKEY in Britain has changed dramatically over the past three years and Rupert Murdoch's involvement is illustrative of how his long-term strategy influences where he chooses to invest.

Sky had a deal with the ice hockey Premier League before it became the Superleague two years ago and was in a good position to secure the rights again - for a sport growing in popularity - when they came up for renegotiation recently. Sky signed a two-year deal to screen the sport (worth around £1m per year to the Superleague) and an option for a third year.

The investment is tiny when compared with the £67m four-year deal Sky has with the football's Premier League, but potentially of immense value

should demand for British ice hockey increase internationally.

Sky has an ice hockey night on Thursday and it also broadcasts the Benson and Hedges Cup from the quarter-final stages onwards.

"Many people think of it as a small sport," a Superleague spokesman said, while pointing out that attendances of 17,000 and 10,000 in Manchester and Sheffield are larger than many First Division football crowds.

"As and when our product is in demand internationally [NHL hockey from the US and Canada currently dominate] we'll be looking to sell that product around the world."

Sky's investment will not guarantee it secures those rights, but it will put them in the best position to negotiate if and when it happens.

Nick Harris

## BASKETBALL

MIKE SMITH, the Budweiser League chief executive, is adamant. "Sky's involvement with basketball has been nothing but beneficial," said Smith, who this week signs a new deal with the satellite channel which will be worth £1m to the sport over the next three years.

This is the second three-year agreement between the league and Sky, who will show 30 games this season in a two-hour Sunday evening slot, in addition to the Dairy Lea Dunkers all-star game, the uni-ball League Trophy Final and the Budweiser play-off championships.

"Sky give us a high-quality outlet enabling us to prove that where we have regular coverage we can stand up against other sports," Smith said.

"Audiences vary between

40,000 and 150,000, which Sky are obviously happy with or they wouldn't be improving our deal. Our figures are 3-1 above audiences for ice hockey; for example, and we have bigger audiences than NBA basketball."

Smith added: "Before Sky came along our only outlet was provided by occasional games, the major finals, on terrestrial TV."

Sky has also developed personalities by using coaches and players as commentators on its programme, fronted by Suzanne Dando.

"They have steered away from outside presenters and that has improved their credibility within the sport," Smith said. "By contrast the BBC's credibility in particular has declined with its often stilted and dated presentation."

Richard Taylor

## TENNIS

THE INFLUENCE of Rupert Murdoch on British tennis is still in its infancy, but not through lack of desire. The Holy Grail of the sport here is Wimbledon, which is still a listed event and thus the BBC have the exclusive broadcasting rights.

The listed status is reviewed periodically, however, and it is understood Sky is lobbying for a change so it could bid for the rights to the whole tournament except for the men's final. "The men's final is, and will always remain, listed," an LTA spokesman said.

At the moment Sky's only exclusive tennis deal in Britain is to cover the Nottingham Open, a relatively low-key event but a foot in the door nonetheless. "It's advantageous for ourselves and British tennis to

have the Nottingham Open on Sky," an LTA sponsorship spokesman said. He declined to say how much the deal was worth and said he was not in a position to say whether a bid from Sky to screen Wimbledon would be well received by the LTA and the All England Club, which runs Wimbledon and negotiates the sale of television rights. "It depends on whether we want [Wimbledon] retained on terrestrial TV or to explore other broadcasting opportunities," he said.

Sky broadcasts other major international tennis events (the US Open, the Davis Cup, the Federation Cup, the Compaq Grand Slam in Munich), but in Europe the main player is Eurosport, which has a TV deal with the ATP to screen around 50 major tournaments per year.

Nick Harris

## HORSE RACING

IF THE *Winding Post* is not necessarily the most appropriate title for Sky's no-frills coverage of largely second-rate racing fixtures, calling it *Stuck in the Stalls* would be a disservice too.

For the racing fanatic who has not been sated by the extensive transmission of the sport by the BBC and, in particular, Channel 4, Sky fills in the gaps, principally by covering evening fixtures and some Saturday meetings that are not on terrestrial TV.

The station has made a narrow inroad into coverage of the better meetings, taking over from Channel 4 at Newcastle and thus denying non-subscribers the chance to view one of the Flat season's biggest handicaps, the Northumberland Plate, and a significant

Grand National trial, the Elder Chase.

The latter is sponsored by the Tote, who are in a prime position to assess Sky's effect on racing. "Coverage by Sky had a negative impact on betting compared with terrestrial TV because of their lower customer base," Rob Hartnett, the organisation's spokesman, said. "Betting turnover on the Northumberland Plate and the Elder Chase declined appreciably since the switch from Channel 4."

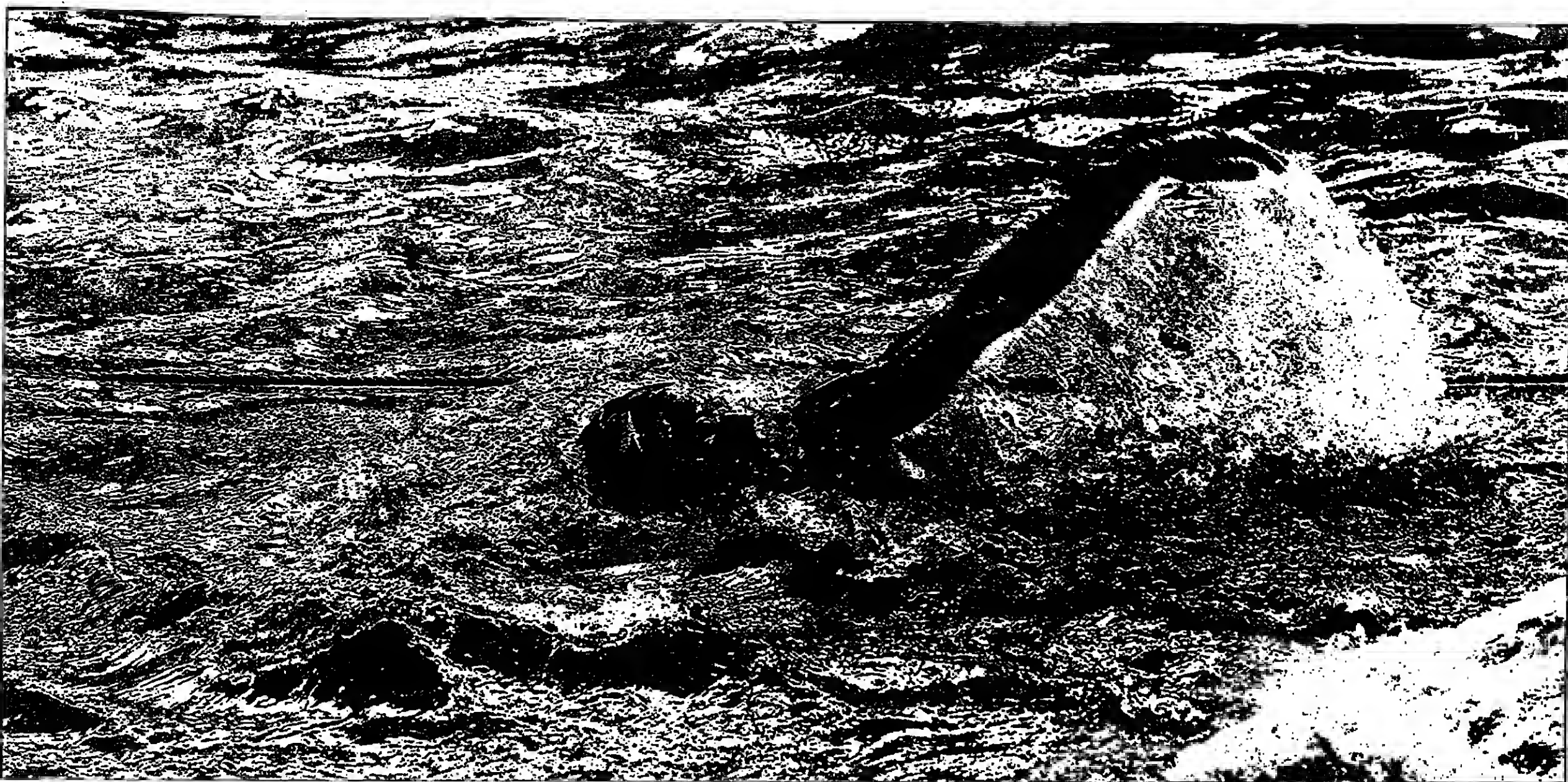
Sky has not had the opportunity, or the need, to tamper with the sport and there have been no fixture changes to accommodate the station's schedules. Better still, Jeff Stelling's presentation of *The Winding Post* is high on action and low on talking heads, a refreshing alternative to the verbosity of terrestrial coverage.

John Cobb

July 1201520



# Helen in harmony afloat and at play



Helen Don-Duncan shows the powerful and relaxed style which has impressed Britain's swimming officials and launched what will be the first of many top-level outings for her country at Kuala Lumpur

Peter Jay

AS HELEN Don-Duncan was leaving to take part in a training session, she had one question. "Do you do know how to spell my name properly?" she asked, a victim of misplaced letters in the past. It is not a problem she is likely to suffer much longer.

A female who might win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games, that open in Kuala Lumpur on Friday, is unlikely to be mis-spelled for long, but Don-Duncan is also 17, blonde, and attractive. The words "golden girl of British swimming" seem to be her destiny, even if they are not in common parlance currently.

Don-Duncan, from Garwood, near St Helens, is

ranked joint first in the Commonwealth for the 200m backstroke, with Australia's Meredith Smith, and is rising through the world rankings at a speed akin to her rate through the water. Even if she fails in Malaysia, she ought to be knocking on the door of her prime at Sydney 2000.

"It's her determination that makes her stick out," Ivor Tatum, her coach, said. "She knows what she wants, and it's an Olympic gold medal. I probably shouldn't say this, but I think she'll get it."

Tatum has coached Don-Duncan, an A-level student at Winstanley College, almost from the moment she found she could move quicker through the



**The latest contender for golden girl (left) of swimming also plays the euphonium in her spare time. By Guy Hodgson**

water than her peers. "It was her attitude even then that made her stand out," he said. "It's the willingness to work that sets youngsters apart."

She gives 100 per cent every time she gets in the water. That's not easy when it's 5am on a cold winter morning and you're a long way off competition. It's nice for a coach to

have a swimmer who motivates herself.

Don-Duncan, who comes across as having a laid-back attitude that makes David Gower look hyper-tense, has taken to renown with aplomb. She says she likes the attention and does not get nervous before big competitions. Only competing in the World Championships at Perth

who watch us compete normally."

She has been viewed with more than passing interest by the Amateur Swimming Association, who incorporated her into the Swim 2000 squad set up after the last Olympics to school our best youngsters both in and out of the pool. "She is," a spokesman said, "a very talented young girl."

That was apparent almost from the moment she took to the water. "I started at school and enjoyed it almost straight away," she said. "I still do. I train nine times a week but I can't say I find it a chore. Most of my friends are swimmers, including my boyfriend, so it's not a question of missing out on a

social life. We fit things in round our training."

"I was always competitive. Even when we used to swim breadths across the local pool. I always wanted to be first across."

Competitive by nature, she became competitive in the pool after winning a gold medal at the Junior European Championships two years ago. Her best time dropped by two seconds during that season and, from a place so deep in the world rankings she did not register 12 months ago, she is in the top 20 and rising now.

Where that upward momentum will take her is anybody's guess, though she has set herself the limited aim of

any medal at the Commonwealth Games. "I'd like to swim in three Olympics if I can," she said, "before I start thinking about retirement."

When you meet her that statement is about the only retiring thing about her, although she does have a subject about which she is shy. "I get skitted about," she said. "My dad is a conductor of the Pemberton Youth Band, so I've played since I was seven."

Her instrument, to the dismay of sub-editors who could have had a splendid time with others, is the euphonium. Still, she will not need to blow her own trumpet if she wins in Malaysia. Her name should be spelt right, too.

## Kolesar's late strike rescues Panthers

ICE HOCKEY

NOTTINGHAM PANTHERS continued their good run at Manchester Storm's Nynex Arena by earning a 3-3 draw there on Sunday in the Benson and Hedges Cup.

The Panthers followed up their two victories and a draw last season with another point that came courtesy of a late equaliser from Mark Kolesar just over a minute from time.

Pekka Virta and Steve Roberts scored the Panthers' other goals, while Manchester's men on the mark were Jeff Tomlinson, Kelly Askew and Jonathan Weaver.

There was still no joy, meanwhile, for the new boys London Knights. Playing their first home game - at Milton Keynes - against Sheffield Steelers, the Knights went down 5-3 for their second defeat of the weekend.

Having taken the lead in under two minutes through Nick Poole, they pulled the score back to 2-2 through Greg Gatto, after Derek Laxdal and David Longstaff had put the Steelers in front.

But Laxdal's second, and efforts from Ed Courtenay and Teeder Wynne put the Steelers in control, despite Jason Campeau pulling one back for Knights.

It was a dismal weekend on the road for last season's beaten cup finalists Cardiff Devils. Having lost away to the holders, Ayr, on Saturday, they went down 4-3 to Newcastle Riverkings the following night. Blake Knox scored twice for the Riverkings, who were never behind, and goals were added by the former Devils player Hilton Ruggles and Glenn Mulvenna. For Cardiff, goals came from Mario Simioni, Martin Lindman and Doug McEwen.

## Woodward alerted to Watford man

RUGBY UNION  
BY CHRIS HEWETT

IF CLIVE Woodward's summer pilgrimage to the great cathedrals of southern hemisphere rugby left him in serious need of spiritual salvation, help may be at hand. According to Saracens, the reigning knock-out champions, who launched their Allied Dunbar Premiership campaign in such impressive style on Sunday, Jeremy "Thor" son will prove nothing short of a Godsend to England's coach as he prepares for this autumn's testing international business.

The way the Londoners see it, Thomson, the most exciting

South African centre in Super 12 rugby as recently as two seasons ago, has every credential Woodward could wish for: not least a nother from Watford who makes good his English qualification. "He's an outstanding talent and I'll be amazed if he doesn't make it into Clive's squad in next to no time," pronounced Mark Evans, the Saracens director of rugby, yesterday.

Thomson put a debut Premiership try past Northampton at Vicarage Road and generally made light of Philippe Sella's retirement at the end of last season. Woodward was duly impressed - "I thought he played pretty well," he agreed - and, given England's glaring

shortage of midfield back-up during their catastrophic voyage across the equator, his arrival from Natal could hardly be more timely.

Woodward will name his first squad early next month and it is likely to be restricted to the cream of the crop. "Our first internationalers are the World Cup qualifiers with Holland and Italy and we have to operate within tournament rules, so I'll be working with 26 players for both matches," said the coach. "But then we go into the heavy duty stuff against Australia and South Africa, so there is some flexibility. It's going to be fascinating to see who comes through in the early stages of the Premiership."

Meanwhile, the great and the good of the Six Nations committee met at Heathrow yesterday. They were not, apparently, organising a mass escape from those who accuse the game's discredited politicians of a near fatal lack of leadership. Rather, they were engaged in the first serious top-level attempt to restructure the European game in the best interests of those who really matter: the players and the supporters.

Allan Hossie, the former international referee who represents Scotland on the International Rugby Board executive, called the get-together in the wake of last month's pitched battle over the formation of a British League. The committee plans to discuss its plans publicly tomorrow, although Vernon Pugh, the IRB chairman widely blamed for sparking the British League idea, will not be present. He was flying to Kuala Lumpur today for the Commonwealth Games

sevens tournament. If a cross-border competition does manage to stagger to its feet in the near future, Hossie's colleagues in Scotland may attempt to sell off their two so-called super districts, Edinburgh Reivers and Glasgow Caledonians. "In a new set-up, with 20 games a season against top quality opposition, they could become a very attractive proposition," said Duncan Paterson, the Scottish Rugby Union chairman. "Personally, I think the SRU has enough to do running its national sides. The money we currently spend on Glasgow and Edinburgh could be better spread around our clubs."

South Africa, the world champions and current Tri-Nations top dogs, will play eight games, including Tests against all four home nations, during their tour of Britain and Ireland in November and December. They start their programme against Glasgow Caledonians at the Firhill Stadium on 10 November, play Wales at Twickenham four days later and finish against England at Twickenham on 5 December.

### YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARD

#### AXA League

Lancashire v Hampshire

OLD TRAFFORD (One Day): Lancashire (4pts) beat Hampshire by 16 runs

Lancashire won toss

Lancashire

	Runs	Wickets	Over	Rate	Min
J P Crawley c Udal b Mascarenhas	7	0	25	33	
M Ollerton b Hartley	20	0	46	52	
N H Patterson c Aynes b Stephenson	10	1	14	22	
G D Lloyd c Aynes b Stephenson	36	0	2	46	66
A Flintoff c Keesh b Mascarenhas	6	3	56	56	
Wahneem Akram c & b Mascarenhas	9	0	10	15	
HW K Hegg c & b McLean	16	0	2	18	21
IO Austin run out	7	0	13	14	
G Yates not out	4	0	6	9	
G Chapple b McLean	1	0	8	2	
P J Martin b McLean	21	0	2	1	
Earnes (not out)	2				
Total (38.4 overs)	102				
Fall: 1-32, 2-48, 3-50, 4-160, 5-164, 6-182, 7-194, 8-196, 9-200.					

Bowling: C A Connor 8-1-19-0, N A M McLean 7-4-0-39-3, A D Mascarenhas 6-0-24-3, P J Martin 8-0-40-1, J P Stephenson 6-0-42-2, S D Udal 4-0-31-0.

#### AON Trophy Final

Northamptonshire 2nd XI v Derbyshire 2nd XI

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (One Day): Northamptonshire 2nd XI beat Derbyshire 2nd XI by 5 wickets

Derbyshire won toss

Derbyshire

	Runs	Wickets	Over	Rate	Min
S D Scrimgeour c Roberts b Bonwell	18	0	22	25	
B J Spence c Bailey b Pollett	0	0	22	4	
M E Cassar b Innes	42	0	5	52	71
A J Swain not out	27	0	1	35	58
T C Watton b Innes	3	0	9	9	
P A J DeFreitas c & b Snape	58	4	1	82	72
V P Corbin b Davies	9	0	15	29	
G M Roberts c Snape b Logan	9	0	13	17	
"S Griffiths b Logan	1	0	2	7	
S J Lacey not out	6	0	20	23	
T M Smith run out	6	0	1	16	20
Earnes (not out)	22				
Total (35 overs)	189				
Fall: 1-87, 2-98, 3-135, 4-91, 5-107, 6-155, 7-174, 8-183, 9-185.					

Bowling: S A J Bonwell 7-1-28-1, D Pollett 9-0-30-4, R J Logan 10-1-24-2, K J Innes 6-0-30-1, J N Snape 8-0-37-2, M K Davies 10-0-33-2.

## Understudies shine

CRICKET

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

at Northampton

Derbyshire 199 Northamptonshire 203-5 Northamptonshire win by five wickets

ANY TALK of the demise of Second XI cricket is premature, as this one-day AON Trophy final demonstrated. The game is finally trying to bridge its own class divide.

It is happening slowly, but there is a distinct shift of emphasis in the lower reaches of the county game whereby the Dinky Dooos (to rhyme with Twos), as the Second XI sides are known, are no longer the faithful old work-horses can slip into semi-retirement, all the while keeping out some thrusting youngster who has places to go, things to achieve, but nowhere to do so.

Now, the powers that be, the County boards, have diverted these cricketing backwaters into tributaries of the mainstream game. The impor-

ance of Second XI cricket is being recognised as the game heads into the 21st century.

Steve Coverdale interrupted watching the AON Trophy final between Northamptonshire (where he is chief executive) and Derbyshire at Wantage Road to explain: "Second XI cricket is an integral part of the development programme. It represents the only stepping stone between the recreational game and first-class cricket."

On the evidence yesterday, there is every reason to believe Coverdale is right. Northamptonshire, who have a successful youth policy, the focus of which will be their new indoor school, performed efficiently as they completed the first leg of a double. These sides meet again at Derby tomorrow in a three-day Second XI Championship match, which, if Northamptonshire win, will make them only the third county to have achieved the double, after Middlesex and Surrey.

The appearance of the former England all-rounder Phil DeFreitas in the Derbyshire line-up did not please the host

side. While Derbyshire were perfectly entitled to field him under regulations which stipulate no more than three capped players over the age of 25 (emphasising the push to younger Second XI squads), there were mutterings that it was not in the spirit of the competition.

His class was apparent, and if, as Derbyshire maintained, he was in the side to give the younger players the benefit of his experience, then it worked. DeFreitas treated them to an object lesson in batting, hammering 58 off 75 balls.

But, apart from Matthew Cassar's gritty 42 and a more cautious innings from Tim Tweats, no one on the Derbyshire side could manage to master the home side's attack. When Northampton began their assault, Graeme Swann (46) and David Roberts (31) rattled along at five an over.

On Graeme's departure his younger brother Alec took up the cudgels and won the Swann-upping, as it were, with a fine unbeaten half century to help steer Northamptonshire to victory with two overs to spare.

## Young England squad face trial

HOCKEY

BY BILL COLWILL

HOCKEY IS due to make its debut in the Commonwealth Games here tomorrow, with England's women starting their campaign against New Zealand, Scotland playing the firm favourites for the title, Australia, and Wales taking on South Africa.

It is a splendid opportunity for all three teams to feature in a major competition in which England and Scotland both should reach the semi-finals. And for England it is an opportunity to make amends for their terrible World Cup performance earlier this year, finishing ninth in Utrecht.

England also have Wales and South Africa, who finished above them in the World Cup, in the same pool, which is completed by Canada and Namibia, who have come in as late replacements for Sri Lanka.

Scotland have been drawn in the easier pool. Though world and Olympic champions Australia should walk away with it, the Scots' semi-final prospects hinge on beating India.

If England are to return home with a medal they need to top their group with wins against New Zealand and South Africa to avoid Australia in the semi-finals. They should be capable of beating both. Succeed and the youth policy of coach Maggie Souvay will have paid great dividends. Fail, and her critics will have a field day.

The England strikers Mandy Nicholson and Tina Cullen are back from injury and will add their experience to the treble Olympians Karen Brown, who has been appointed captain, and Jane Sizemith.

Scotland rely on the same squad as in Utrecht, while Wales will be captained by Lynda Watkin.



# Sea waves bye-bye to Leger

**BY IAN DAVIES**

**THE ST Leger**, the oldest of the five Classics, received a massive blow to its credibility as a contemporary championship contest when the Godolphin operation announced last night that two of their entrants, the odds-on favourite Sea Wave, and Central Park will bypass the Doncaster race to instead contest the Prix Niel, a trial for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe over a mile and a half at Longchamp on Sunday.

Over the now unfashionably lengthy distance of one mile six furlong and 132 yards and coming less than a month before the infinitely more prestigious Arc, the St Leger has had a tough time of it in recent years.

Reference Point, in 1987, was the last Derby winner to run in the Leger. He won the

**RICHARD EDMONDSON**  
**Nap: Bint St James**  
**(Newcastle 3.50)**  
**NB: Chinaider**  
**(Newcastle 3.20)**

race easily enough, but subsequently flopped in the Arc, lending weight to the theory that the Leger is a graveyard for those who use it as an Arc trial, a doctrine which has gained in strength ever since the great Nijinsky went under to Sassafras in the 1970 Arc following his trip to Town Moor to complete the Triple Crown.

Even so, last night's news represents a new low point for the St Leger and fresh ammunition for those who want to shorten the distance of the race, open it up to older horses - as is the case with the Irish St Leger and the Prix Royal-Oak (the French St Leger) - or abolish it altogether.

**Coral, Stanley and the Tote suspended betting on the Leger after yesterday's withdrawals, but William Hill and Ladbrokes issued new prices and make**



Nedawi (No. 5), pictured dead-heating for the Gordon Stakes at Goodwood, is the new favourite for Saturday's St Leger

**Trevor Jones**

**Nedawi, Godolphin's remaining entry, their 2-1 favourite.**

Ta-Lim, winner of the March Stakes at Goodwood recently, is a definite runner. Richard Hills, who takes the ride at Doncaster, partnered Sir Michael Stoute's charge in work at Newmarket on Saturday and the colt satisfied connections.

Angus Gold, racing manager to Ta-Lim's owner, Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum, said: "He didn't do much because it had only been a week since he

knows how good he is. The ground won't bother him. I understand rain is forecast and if the going was on the easy side, I don't think he'd mind that."

Ardleigh Charrmer, the outsider, also runs. Chris Dwyer, his trainer, said: "He's ready to run and Gary Hind will be offered the ride. The owners bred him and have paid for him to get this far so they decided to have a go and have a day out."

The filly Star Begonia from Aidan O'Brien's Ballydoyle yard is a probable runner but Peter Chapple-Hyam's Dark Moon-dancer has not yet been given the go-ahead for Doncaster. Chapple-Hyam said: "We'll see

how he goes in the morning before we decide. If they get some rain it would help - he loves the cut and the 14 furlongs would suit him down to the ground. If he does run, I'm stuck for a jockey because John Reid is going to Ireland to ride Swain.

When the layers revise their prices in a hurry, punters can take advantage. Although he is not a definite starter, Lady Brookes' offer of 20-1 Dark Moon dancer is unlikely to last long, neither is their 10-1 Star Begonia or 9-1 High and Low, while William Hill are likely to have plenty of takers for their offer of 7-2 The Glow-Worm and 9-1 Sunshine Street.

## ANTE-POST ACTION

3.40 ST LEGER STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 1) £320,000 added 3YO 1m ff 132yds Penalty Value £192,000		W.H.	Landrobes
16100	ARHLEGUE CHARMER (ff) C Dwyer 0 0	200-1	200-1
20436	CENTRAL PARK (27) Sated by Sator 0 0	Doubtful	---
13704	DARK MOONDAUNER (13) P O'Grady-Hyams 0 0	---	6-1 20-1
2140	ECCO FREEDLY (14) (C) B Hills 0 0	---	25-1 25-1
19	NEZAMU 440 Sated by Sator 0 0	L.Deter	2-1 2-1
20205	BADMAN (ff) J Dwyer 0 0	7 Odds	15-2 7-4
4-211	SEA WAIVE (27) Sated by Sator 0 0	Doubtful	---
20240	SUNSHINE STAKES (25) (ff) M Meade (ff) 0 0	---	6-1 7-1
2164	TA-LAM (14) St in Sator 0 0	R Hills	7-1 7-1
1-225	THE GLOW-WORM (25) B Hills 0 0	M Hills	7-2 11-4
2-102	HIGH AND LOW (ff) B Hills 0 1	---	5-1 11-4
3222	STAR BEGONIA (ff) A P O'Brien (ff) 0 0	---	15-2 10-1

- 12 declared -

Each-way a 30th the odds, places, 1, 2, 3 (Monday-Saturday)

# LINGFIELD

HYPERION	
2.00 Haroldon	4.00 Peppitt
2.30 Alabac (nb)	4.30 Wishah
3.00 Magic Light	5.00 Doraid
3.30 Bahaman Bendit	5.30 Agent Le Blanc

**GONING:** Turn - Good; AW - Standard.

**STALLS:** Turf - Straight - stands side; round course - outside; AW - inside.

**DRAW ADVANTAGE:** High from 5f to 7f 40yds.

— Left-hand, near unobscuring course.

— Course is SE of town or 1500ft. Upland station (served by London, Victoria) adjacent course.

**ADMISSIONS:** Club £3, Family Entrance £10. CAR PARK: Club £3; rest free.

**LEADING TRAINERS:** G. & Moore 55-067 (62.7%), M. Johnston 53-295 (49%), R. Harman 50-179 (32.2%), Lord Arlington 45-225 (26.6%), G. Kellaway 52-266 (75.4%).

**LEADING JOCKEYS:** A. Clark 7-48 (2%), R. Cochrane 83-384 (72.7%), M. Gifford 49-258 (40.1%), P. Harman 22-232 (52.5%), A. Day 18-209 (49.5%), Paul Edey 17-175 (71%).

**FAVOURITES:** 74-227 (53.4%).

**LEADING FIRST-TIME:** Encouraged late (voted), 30f, On The Black (voted), 30f, Sprint Course, 1500y, 1500y, 1500y, 1500y, 1500y.

[illegible]

<b>4.00</b>		<b>55'S H.B.L.R. BLINDLEY HEATH HANDICAP (CLASS D)</b>		<b>£10,000 added 72 Penalty Value £8,740</b>	
1-42222	STAND TALL (39) (3) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 10.8				Paid Election
2-42222	FINISHED FIRST (39) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 9.9				A Bely (3)
3-0000	COMELLA (4) (A) 10mz; TO Mearns 8.9				P Finales (7)
4-4000	AMBER FORT (39) (3) 12mz John Henry Society D Elnorw 5.9 12				N Polk (7) 11
5-4080	SLEIGH KRISTAL (32) (3) Eric Pearce R Anticw 4.0				R Hines 10
6-00-00	MOSCOM MET (25) Mearns Mary Auctions B Pelling 7.9 4				T Spates 1
7-0958	BE MY WISH (39) (2) 12mz Miss O Keweenaw 3.9				S Dames 12
8-0000	THE MOUNTAIN (39) (3) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 3.9				S Dames 12
9-0333	PEPPATT (39) (3) 12mz Henry Reddington D Nicholas 4.8 2				W J O'Connor 14
10-4010	BOZEMAN (32) (3) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 4.2 3.2				Martin Dwyer 16
11-0059	BAE MAGE (4) (A) (2) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 4.2 3.2				R Hughes 16
12-0000	APOLLO RID (17) (2) (A) 10mz; O Mearns 1.9				Candy Roads 16
13-0524	EMILY MAH (17) (2) Family Man Partnership J Fawcetts 5.8 1				J Dochman 16
14-0000	TORTON (39) (3) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 5.8 1				O Dochman 16
15-0000	THE MOUNTAIN (39) (3) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 5.8 1				A Michels (3) 16
16-0231	CANTARY MARY (17) (2) (3) Peking J Ahearns 3.8 3				A Clark 16
17-0220	SPUR MONARCH (40) (3) 12mz Mary Lady Hems 3.8 3				M Fenton 16
18-0532	STALEY PRINCE (40) (3) Stephen Oconnor M O'Connor 3.8 3				A Mearns 16

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

**BETTING:** 6-7 Appaled, 8-1 Staid 10-1, 10-1 Run Up, Ashlat run, Saver Kasey, Moosewone  
Shoppers Brown, Apollo Red, Family King, Conroy May, 12-1 others

**1997:** Saver Kasey 9 @ D K Fallon 6-1 (Hormung) drawn 10, 15 ran

**HORMY GUIDE**

Stared, Stid Standing High in the weights following brown headband win from 8to lower . Fair efforts last Newburyd and Apr before 20-1 of 22 to Cadeaux, Char at Ripon (8) best time  
Free Opote: Disappointing 13 lengths off 10 to Sunstreaked at Sandown last time but  
progressive type worth consideration on either second to Wernapfongoff standstill (7)  
(Domestic) Formerly useful sprinter: No form for some time and 21 lengths lost 29 to Sehn-  
shunpark Park by Accel (8) on latest start three months ago  
Amberley Star: On far mark but good effort over 10 furlongs, 10-1 including Goodwood and  
Kempston wins. Should be handy enough with 14th of 16 to Valley Ann at Selhurst (11)  
Sinner Kistlet: Rated 50 to 10-lengths when 14th of 16th Marmoset won over Donia Linn Outboxed  
in United company last race and appears to have plenty on his own, even with good draw  
Moosewone Must Beat time for some while when landing second of 10 to Myrdione Melotte at  
Kempton (7) last time but unreliable and 28th higher here. Best test feature  
the Myr White Acolt maiden winner last month and beat 5½ lengths each of 12 to Golden Fox

## FORM GUIDE

**Croft Revell:** Little sign of ability. Beaten 34 lengths when 15th of 16 to Quarus in similar contest at Windsor (m 2)

**Kilnwick:** Well beaten in maiden handicaps last two starts. Priority to find here

**Balmuccia:** Unimpaired in maiden going out of Amersham

**Dorset:** Dropped up on a previous form when beaten short-head by Elinchou over 6 here last season. Showed plenty of courage and likely to be suited by the extra furlong

**Emrollik Mosses:** Signs of ability on debut when stayed on 4 lengths seventh of 13 to The Woodcock, at Nottingham (m 6). Extra furlong should suit plenty to find

**Fordells:** Little sign of ability when 23 lengths 5th of 10 to Qu. Show at Maresbury (m 7) on debut in June

**Kenneth:** Useful reappearance second to Waffly. Folly at Fallowfield (s) before 5 lengths off 23 to Raven in Windsor 6f handicap. Shaped as though this run will suit and acts on surface. But has 17 weeks absence to overcome

**My Bold Boy:** Thirdling from a good sire and mother to 7 winner Phoebe

**Senior:** Career-best effort, but 11 off debut, beaten 3 1/2 lengths by Rialto Boyce over 1m here last season but may plenty more to find

**Thayer:** Signs of ability when staying on 14 lengths sixth of 11 to Splendid colt at Salisbury

[illegible]

Danny George: 60-1 when behind in three maidens, 4-0 when 1st of 12 in slow-n-runny (350 lower) net at Newmarket 11 days ago. Blinked last two starts.

1 **2** **3** **4** **5** **6** **7** **8** **9** **10** **11** **12** **13** **14** **15** **16** **17** **18** **19** **20** **21** **22** **23** **24** **25** **26** **27** **28** **29** **30** **31** **32** **33** **34** **35** **36** **37** **38** **39** **40** **41** **42** **43** **44** **45** **46** **47** **48** **49** **50** **51** **52** **53** **54** **55** **56** **57** **58** **59** **60** **61** **62** **63** **64** **65** **66** **67** **68** **69** **70** **71** **72** **73** **74** **75** **76** **77** **78** **79** **80** **81** **82** **83** **84** **85** **86** **87** **88** **89** **90** **91** **92** **93** **94** **95** **96** **97** **98** **99** **100** **101** **102** **103** **104** **105** **106** **107** **108** **109** **110** **111** **112** **113** **114** **115** **116** **117** **118** **119** **120** **121** **122** **123** **124** **125** **126** **127** **128** **129** **130** **131** **132** **133** **134** **135** **136** **137** **138** **139** **140** **141** **142** **143** **144** **145** **146** **147** **148** **149** **150** **151** **152** **153** **154** **155** **156** **157** **158** **159** **160** **161** **162** **163** **164** **165** **166** **167** **168** **169** **170** **171** **172** **173** **174** **175** **176** **177** **178** **179** **180** **181** **182** **183** **184** **185** **186** **187** **188** **189** **190** **191** **192** **193** **194** **195** **196** **197** **198** **199** **200** **201** **202** **203** **204** **205** **206** **207** **208** **209** **210** **211** **212** **213** **214** **215** **216** **217** **218** **219** **220** **221** **222** **223** **224** **225** **226** **227** **228** **229** **230** **231** **232** **233** **234** **235** **236** **237** **238** **239** **240** **241** **242** **243** **244** **245** **246** **247** **248** **249** **250** **251** **252** **253** **254** **255** **256** **257** **258** **259** **260** **261** **262** **263** **264** **265** **266** **267** **268** **269** **270** **271** **272** **273** **274** **275** **276** **277** **278** **279** **280** **281** **282** **283** **284** **285** **286** **287** **288** **289** **290** **291** **292** **293** **294** **295** **296** **297** **298** **299** **300** **301** **302** **303** **304** **305** **306** **307** **308** **309** **310** **311** **312** **313** **314** **315** **316** **317** **318** **319** **320** **321** **322** **323** **324** **325** **326** **327** **328** **329** **330** **331** **332** **333** **334** **335** **336** **337** **338** **339** **340** **341** **342** **343** **344** **345** **346** **347** **348** **349** **350** **351** **352** **353** **354** **355** **356** **357** **358** **359** **360** **361** **362** **363** **364** **365** **366** **367** **368** **369** **370** **371** **372** **373** **374** **375** **376** **377** **378** **379** **380** **381** **382** **383** **384** **385** **386** **387** **388** **389** **390** **391** **392** **393** **394** **395** **396** **397** **398** **399** **400** **401** **402** **403** **404** **405** **406** **407** **408** **409** **410** **411** **412** **413** **414** **415** **416** **417** **418** **419** **420** **421** **422** **423** **424** **425** **426** **427** **428** **429** **430** **431** **432** **433** **434** **435** **436** **437** **438** **439** **440** **441** **442** **443** **444** **445** **446** **447** **448** **449** **450** **451** **452** **453** **454** **455** **456** **457** **458** **459** **460** **461**

12.11: length of 19 to 21 China Red there in 3rd last time and should be threeboats  
 Pappalich Urduy for 13 time there in three last time and should 2 lengths still of 11 to Quat  
 Vener at Newcastle (7). Weighed to go down and wet down with going to suit  
 Mozambique: Disappointing two starts following 24 length win over Wild Sky at Dorchester  
 in March (71 good to suit). 70 higher here and returning from the month early  
 12.12: 70 higher here and returning from the month early. 70 higher here and returning  
 on Friday but close to best two previous starts. Acts on acid and cannot be relied out.  
 Apollo Red: Rated 50 for Brighton win in July, but slipping back to useful mark, and in  
 good form when 4 lengths fifth to Llewellyn over 9 here last time. Not out of it.  
 Family Man: Winner of 50 Highland Newcastle last May. Best race here when 17 1/2  
 start of 17 to 18. Borderer at Ripon (71) last time but 31 here on sharp side  
 12.13: 70 higher here and returning from the month early. 70 higher here and returning  
 in form in recent starts and looks one to oppose.  
 Empire State: Mid-season Cuckoo and Cuckoo: winner 28; higher than latest win but re-  
 turning from 8 lengths 11th of 13 to Styish Vase at Newcastle (8)  
 Conqueror: My: Returned to best to land small gamble over C/O last month from 76 lower,  
 beating Diluvate a length. 70 higher here but acts on acid and should take a hand  
 12.14: 70 higher here and returning from the month early. 70 higher here and returning  
 in form in recent starts and looks one to oppose.

**El Time Heights at Sandown (m 2)**  
**El Time Heights:** Skidled across 17 lengths seven of 8 to Kaimai in 1m at weather maid on here in December.  
**Calvea:** 10 lengths of Alton on debut but outpaced where eight of 12 to East Winds at Warwick (2) in July. Extra turnout should beat last plenty to find.  
**Fairy Lights:** Soared weakened when 23 lengths 12th of 16 to Brief Escapee at Warwick (1) on debut and little obvious chance.  
**Redstart:** Old sign of action notably when 8 lengths fourth to Free Option in 71/40s here in July. Shorter leg should suit, and looks place possible.  
**Merry Melody:** Little sign of ability in two starts.  
**State Rejuvenate:** Seemingly first of a lightly-raced mare. Market the best guide.  
**Star Princess:** Touch of Grey fly, sister to 1m and 1m1 winner Blaise.

**VERDICT:** This should be something of a formality for DORAD, whose game action and home last month should provide about an apparently modest margin of victory. Katayusha and Sevens seems the two most likely to follow him home.

**5.30 KPMG MEDIUM AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F)**  
**£3,000 added 1m 1/2 3p 10yds Penalty Value £2,480**  
**1. FRODO HOODWINGS 1m 1/2 3p 10yds**

**2.30** **BBF NUTFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DV F) £4,600**  
added 250 fillies 7 Penzance Way £4,319

2	<b>ALABAMA</b> (g) Harman D Kincaid y Dunker B 11	1	H 167
1	<b>CONQUEST</b> (m) Harman D Kincaid B 11	2	N 149
3	<b>COME WHAT MAY</b> (The Storm Agency) y Dundee 11	3	N 149
4	<b>GEORGETTE</b> (USA) (Shah Minkowski) y Gossard 0 11	4	F 168
5	<b>MERE SLAD</b> (The Lambton Racing Club) y A Jones B 11	5	D 176
6	<b>MISS MARY</b> (Buddy Hedges) y Henson 11	6	H 168
7	<b>SUSANNE</b> (Mrs Peter Hastings) Long Houghton 8 11	7	O 170

7	KOLDER GENE (F O'Donnell) A James 9	3 Drown 16
8	NEWLY THROTTLED (F O'Donnell) A James 9	3 Natter 8
9	ON THE BLACK (20) F Pacey M Yates 9	4 Clark 9
10	OLDIE GENE (M E Studd) D Edwards 10	4 N Pallett 10
11	ORANGE (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
12	ORRIST (G) Lee Hain Doodatooly Ltd G L Moore 9	4 Candy 18
13	ROCKIE (N In Green) C Pacey 9	4 Beggs 10
14	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 P Pallett 10
15	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
16	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
17	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
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83	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
84	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
85	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
86	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
87	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
88	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
89	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
90	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
91	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
92	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14
93	ROCKY (F O'Donnell) A James 9	4 Natter 14</

PEPPIAT) On a good mark but yet to show stays his trip

PHYSICS) Following PEPPIAT has been an expensive hobby lately but he is unlikely to get a much better one. He is now 100 lbs lower than when scoring over course and distance for Rag Ashurst 14 months ago and has been knocking on the door. He is not totally ready but is nicely drawn and is preferred to Free Open, Stand Tall, Empire State and Statistly Princess, who also have claims to a free open contest.

**4.30 EBF NUTFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DV 1) \$2,600**  
added 2YO fillies 7f Penalty Value \$4,318

1	AT MY COMMAND (P Seed) W Javes 8 11	Paul Eddery 3
2	BERTYL (1) (Capt J Macdonald-Burman) J Dunlop 8 11	W J O'Brien 9
3	KAZZADO (4) (Sister J Macdonald) B Dore 8 11	A Clark 8
4	WINDMILL (4) (QUEST 1) W Simpson 11	J Stevens 4
5	SANTERESSA (2) (M M Oursary) B Elliott 8 11	G Hammon 7 11
6	SCINC BEAUTY (15) (Majr A M Macdonald) R Hannan 8 11	R Hughes 7
7	SCINC LADY (Mn Chandra Gordon) J Sheahan 8 11	D Begg 7
8	WERNAR (15A) (Hannan M Makajung) J Gordon 8 11	R Hills 1

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

ATNINGS-144 Steele Beauty, Whatch, 9-2 Barty, 13-2 Zabab, 10-1 At My Command, Sandtime, 11-1 Kazzoo, Milwaukee Gold, Soonic Lady  
1999: Yearling 2-10 1/2 miles (2) 1/2 P World draw (8) 1/2  
FORM GUIDE  
At 11 Convent: 26/000 90 30-15 By Whistling Fly Dark Run.  
Barty: Barling colt of 10 7/16ms: 20-1 kept on under consistent handling after slow start. He won 9 straight night of 1/2 to 1/4 ms Amsturf on debut in test-run Newmarket 7/1 start. Like to improve a good deal.  
Kazzoo: Second fly mixed to two winners. Stable not tested for freshline Juvenile winners since 1997. 1998: 10/10 1/2 miles (2) 1/2 P World draw (8) 1/2  
Sandtime: 33-1 always well placed, last of 7, 18 behind Circle of Gold at Newbury (8). Bred to need much form.  
Soonic Beauty: improved on last Leicester debut when stayed on 7/16m third of colts to Meating Ted at Brighton (8). Extra training should suit and fly to progress again.  
Soonic Lady: Stable fly mixed. 10/10 1/2 miles (2) 1/2 P World draw (8) 1/2  
Steele Beauty: 17/000 dollars Red Rumson first out of untraced Nine Gold. Stable youngsters in great form and market should be best deal.  
Zabab: 20/0000 Nymroble fly who improved on Fakenhead debut when landed-theyard first 1/4mths fly of 5 to Greenstead at Salisbury (9). Could play a major role with stable juveniles finding their form.  
VERDICT: The John Goodenhamer Newmarket should be at the rage here, but there may be better bets in WELLS, who lost few marks on her debut in a useful test and came back in Newmarket and fly to improve a good deal. There also looking to run from Zabab, who stepped fairly well in a reasonably good contest at Salisbury.

[illegible]







England revelations: Shearer's claims dismissed in an impressive performance by a player not afraid to speak his mind

# Adams refuses to buckle in defence

BY CLIVE WHITE

THERE WAS no backtracking, no regrets from Tony Adams yesterday about either his book or the timing of it. The idea, put forward by the England captain, Alan Shearer, that the future surrounding his book and that of the national coach, Glenn Hoddle, had contributed to England's downfall in Stockholm was summarily dismissed by the Arsenal man - though he made a point of differentiating between the two.

Introduced to the media at yesterday's launch at Highbury of *Addicted* (Collins Willow, £16.99) "as the former England captain, Arsenal Double winning captain and best-selling author, Tony Adams", he made it clear he would not be attempting to defend Hoddle's literary effort. "I've not read his book," he said, "but I've put a lot of time and effort into this book - 18 months - and am very proud of it. I can't answer whether his book is better than mine but I'm doing it from the right place and for the right motives and being honest."

The inference was clear: his was a serious piece of work, with honourable intentions, as opposed to that of Hoddle, whose book is already high in the best-sellers' list.

After what the reformed alcoholic has been through, the idea that mere words could play a part in how a professional footballer - indeed an international footballer - performed was beyond... words. After a long pause in answer to the question raised about Shearer's observation, he said: "All I can say is that no article has affected the way I play. I go out there to do my best, to try to play football. Obviously sometimes I don't play well, but I can honestly say no book or article could affect the way I do my job. Besides, there's always something going on in the media during England build-ups."

When pressed further and asked

whether his England team-mates had spoken to him about the book Adams responded sharply. "They were fine - we had other things to talk about, like I said to them, 'Stefan Schwarz is playing and he's a very good player and he can control a game if you give him time'. Now that's got more of a bearing on whether you win or lose a game."

Any suggestion that he no longer cared enough about England was also given short shrift. "I was very sad about the Stockholm result - and that's a positive thing for me," he said. Clearly harping back to the days when alcoholism left him oblivious to what was going on around him. He still believes he has a year or two to offer at international level, the old ankles and knees notwithstanding.

Adams cut a relaxed, confident figure in his polo shirt and dishevelled hair and he was ready to field any question put to him in a much more articulate fashion than many give professional footballers credit for. He made it clear that he would not be benefiting financially from the book and that the advance he had received would be shared between his parents (who had had to put up with what he called "secondary fame" all these years) and an alcoholics' clinic.

"I don't need the money," he said. "I just needed to get rid of all the rubbish, get rid of all the wreckage of the past and spread the message that there are traps out there but that there is a way out. I don't want to be on a crusade, I'm not trying to cure the world."

Adams said he regularly warned the apprentices at Arsenal about the dangers of drug and alcoholism, although he felt that many of the young people coming into the sport had a much more dedicated outlook than when he started. In those days he said: "Football and drink went hand in hand." He hinted that he might do



Tony Adams, the England defender, was quick to justify his words at the launch of his book *Addicted* in London yesterday

David Ashdown

more work with the young when his playing days were over.

He described himself as "a control freak" which made it all the more difficult for him to accept his drink problem and for him to reach out for help until he became "sick and tired of being sick and tired. I'd had enough. I'd thrown the towel in which was unusual because it went against every-

thing I'd learned, 'you don't throw the towel in, you're a winner, Tony'."

He was proud of his willpower but in this situation it was of no use to him. As his friend and colleague Paul Merson said to him once: "Have you ever tried stopping diarrhoea?"

Adams defended any criticism he made of the England coach in his book and insisted their relationship

had not been damaged. "It was never my intention to hurt Glenn and I think in the book I've given a balanced opinion of the man. I've got total respect for him. He has great faith and he's true to himself. It was positive, constructive criticism. I've listened [to him] and learned, and I'm sure he has done the same with me. It was unfortunate that I didn't have control of

when the serialisation [in the *Sun*] came out. I couldn't have written this before - two years ago I was still drinking - and I had to wait until the World Cup was over to finish off the last chapter. It had to go out sometime and it got to the biggest readership - I had good motives. I knew it would be reviewed negatively but not as negatively as it has been."

When the time comes to retire Adams will take a year off from the game and study his options - he was impressed with the way that his Arsenal team-mate David Platt had sorted out his future. "I'm spending a Christmas at home, my family deserve that after all these years and then I might take up skiing - my old knees willing."

## United bank on unholy alliance

Rupert Murdoch and Alex Ferguson may be unlikely bedfellows, but their combined expertise could bring Manchester United's Champions' League dream a step closer. By Guy Hodgson

AN INTRIGUING outcome, if BSkyB buy Manchester United, would be the bringing together of two men who, for much of their lives, have held starkly opposing political views. Rupert Murdoch, in many respects, would be an unacceptable face of capitalism in the eyes of Alex Ferguson.

Nothing is more likely to rile the Ferguson than to call him a Conservative. A confirmed socialist, he once rounded on a reporter who likened the team's travails in Europe to Margaret Thatcher's problems with her party over the EU. "Don't ever compare me to that woman," he growled, the look on his face a testament that he was not joking.

Yet Murdoch's newspapers in this country were Mrs Thatcher's

strongest supporters and the *The Sun* has only recently converted to backing Tony Blair. The headline in the *Times* yesterday described the proposed deal as "A Marriage Made in Heaven", but as far as Ferguson's political beliefs are concerned it will be a shotgun marriage.

But, if that suggests the most successful manager of recent times is likely to seek a divorce from Old Trafford, the impression is wrong. Ferguson might not see eye to eye with his prospective employers but he can envisage a golden finale to his time with United.

Only last season Ferguson, 57 in December, bridled against suggestions he would be retiring soon, claiming he still had a hunger to succeed. After four Premiership titles

and two Doubles, that appetite will only be satisfied in Europe.

Ferguson, who has been at Old Trafford since November 1986, desires to emulate one of his predecessors, Sir Matt Busby, by making United the best club in Europe. That means winning the Champions' League, which United qualified for by defeating Poland's LKS Lodz 13 days ago. The closest he has come was two years ago, when they reached the semi-finals and lost to the eventual winners, Borussia Dortmund.

Ferguson might have known nothing about BSkyB's negotiations, but he is concerned at the growing gap between the club and its supporters and have reservations about the likely new owners, but that will be off-

set by the opportunity to compete properly with clubs like Juventus, Milan and Barcelona, who have consistently paid higher transfer fees and salaries. It takes a strong soul to turn his back on a dream.

BSkyB have intimated that Martin Edwards, who currently owns 14 per cent of the club, will remain as a paid chief executive although he will sell his shareholding for approximately £80m, and it is inconceivable that Murdoch would want to get rid of Ferguson or his assistant, Brian Kidd. The unholy alliance may have a beneficial side-effect, too.

A Conservative he might not be, but conservative Ferguson is by nature and, although United are the richest club in Europe, he has been loath to break a salary structure that

pays the top players £22,000 a week. Only last month he failed to sign the Netherlands' Patrick Kluijvert even though Milan had agreed an £8m fee with United, and it is reported that Dwight Yorke took a wage cut to come to Old Trafford from Aston Villa.

At last year's annual shareholders' meeting it was also revealed that Manchester United plc had been prepared to fund the purchase of Marcello Salas, and it had been Ferguson who had hauled at buying the Chilean. Instead, Salas went to the Italian club Lazio for £11.7m (£200,000 less than Yorke).

Whether Ferguson, who has anxiously protected the club and the shareholders' interests in the past, would be as circumspect with Mur-



Opposites attract: Murdoch (left) and Ferguson

Reuters

doch's money is debatable. Freed from restraints, he is likely to make his £27m spending spree this summer on Yorke, Jaap Stam and Jesper Blomqvist seem like the unloading of small change. "You

can have the best collection of footballers ever," Ferguson said last season, "but if there's no-one driving the bus you'll not get there." He will not want to get off now the transport has turned into a coach of gold.

## Vogts and Boney depart but Clemente clings on

### GERMANY

ONE OF Europe's most high-profile national team coaches resigned yesterday after a campaign of vilification led largely by an intolerant media. The "victim" was not England's Glenn Hoddle, but Bert Vogts.

Germany's long-serving coach, who replaced Franz Beckenbauer after West Germany's 1990 World Cup triumph, made the decision to quit following a telephone conversation with Egidius Braun, the president of the German Football Federation (DFB). His successor will be appointed as soon as possible, according to the DFB.

Vogts had been under fire since his side's unexpected World Cup quarter-final defeat by Croatia in France this summer. Playing their first matches since their World Cup exit, Germany failed to shine in two friendlies last week in Malta. A narrow 2-1 win over the home country was followed by a tame 1-1 draw with Romania on Saturday. Both results went down badly with the critics.

Vogts was only the sixth German national team coach since 1923, and only the second to lose his job, after Jupp Derwall in 1984. His overall record in 102 games was 67 wins, 23 draws and 12 defeats. His only trophy was the European Championship, won at Wembley two years ago. His World Cup campaigns were both regarded as failures.

Vogts said he was quitting because he saw no way of carrying on in the face of "great public pressure", and to preserve "any remnants of dignity left over for me".

Braun said: "Humanely, it hurts incredibly to carry out this separation. But, as DFB president, I had to realise that it had become unavoidable."

### BULGARIA

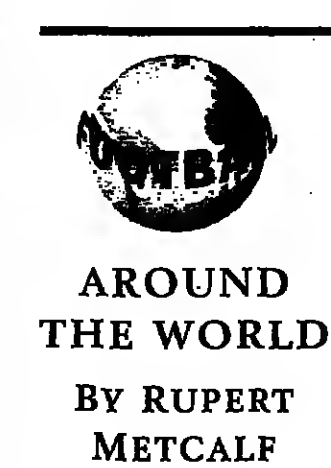
ENGLAND'S NEXT Euro 2000 opponents, Bulgaria, are also looking for a new coach.

Hristo Boney has resigned as the coach of the Bulgarians, who came to Wembley on 10 October. He was

slated by the Sofia media yesterday following his team's "shameful" 3-0 defeat at home to Poland in their first European Championship qualifier on Sunday.

After the match Boney was adamant he had made the right decision to leave out nine of his old guard for the Group Five match in Bourgas. "I have chosen the road of changes and will keep following it whatever it costs me," he said on Sunday. "Patience is needed." He used only two of the players who helped Bulgaria to fourth place at the 1994 World Cup: the 32-year-old Hristo Stoichkov, who now plays in Japan, and Ivailo Jordanov.

Yesterday, though, Boney admitted defeat, and resigned. "I feel very tired. The tense atmosphere hinders normal work. Too many things have to be changed in Bulgarian football. This time my decision is final and nothing can make me change it," Boney said. He had initially quit after his team's first-round exit at France 98, but later changed his mind.



Boney had tried in vain to persuade Krassimir Balakov to rescind his international retirement. The VfB Stuttgart playmaker's absence was felt strongly on Sunday, as the strikers Stoichkov and Doncho Donev had no service to feed off. Balakov may now change his mind in time to play against England.

### SPAIN

JAVIER CLEMENTE looks set to survive the latest clamour for his resignation as Spain's coach.

Saturday's 3-2 defeat by Cyprus in Nicosia, when Spain's team of high-profile, high-earning players were out-classed by the part-timers of the home country in a European Championship qualifier, led to calls for Clemente's departure.

Clemente has never been popular with the Spanish media, especially following his side's limp first-round exit at the World Cup in France. After Sunday's humiliation, the Barcelona-based newspaper *Sport* declared yesterday: "It is intolerable that after the fiasco of the World Cup we should now return to the ridiculous."

It is not just the media which is wielding the knife. Radomir Antic, the former coach of Atletico Madrid, said: "This is the worst Spanish team I've seen in my life."

Jesus Gil y Gil, the always outspoken Atletico Madrid president,

added: "It's embarrassing that this man continues to run the team."

But despite the widespread criticism of his team selection and tactics, Clemente still has the backing of the president of the Spanish Football Federation, Angel Maria Villar said: "Our confidence in Javier Clemente is total. Spanish football continues to support him."

As for Clemente, he insisted: "I'm not going to go. We haven't lost anything and our chances of going to Euro 2000 are still intact."

### VIETNAM

SINGAPORE WON the Tiger Cup international tournament in Vietnam on Saturday, beating the host nation 1-0 in the final in Hanoi. The focus of attention, though, remained the farcical game earlier in the event between Thailand and Indonesia.

As reported here last week, both teams sought to avoid a win and a semi-final meeting with Vietnam - an Indonesian defender scored a deliberate own goal to give Thailand

victory. Fines of £25,000 per team were this weekend reduced by the Asian Football Federation: the Indonesians must now pay £12,500, the Thais £6,250.

The sorry saga has reduced the already poor standing of Asian football. "We already suffer from a lack of credibility in this region, partly because of the problems from match-fixing," Singapore's English coach, Barry Whitbread, a former Chesterfield midfielder, said. "Everyone saw the game between Thailand and Indonesia, and that has dragged the region's reputation down even further."

Vietnam's coach, Alfred Riedl, an Austrian, admitted there was a culture of corruption in his adopted country. "They have some problems here with match-fixing," Riedl, who has been working in Vietnam for four months, said. "It's not as bad as Malaysia was a few years ago - but it is still going on and it is ruining the game." In the mid-1990s, dozens of Malaysian players and officials were implicated in match-fixing scandals.

2001.09.08









## SPORT

THE MURDOCH INFLUENCE P18 • AUTHOR ADAMS HAS NO REGRETS P22

## Ince fights for his reputation

## FOOTBALL

BY NICK HARRIS

PAUL INCE yesterday denied he had abused the crowd following his sending off during England's 2-1 defeat in Sweden on Saturday, and made an impassioned plea that he be given no more than a one-match ban for his sins.

Roy Evans, the co-manager at Liverpool - where Ince is the captain - added his weight to the debate, claiming his player had been victimised during the European Championship qualifier because of his abrasive reputation.

Ince was seen on television apparently swearing and making a V-sign as he left the pitch after his red card for two bookable offences. He said yesterday he felt the matter had been blown out of all proportion.

"People [the media] have been trying to make something out of it all," he said. "It would be easy to forget that they are English, they are trying to wind things up."

"All the other stuff is a load of rubbish. I wasn't doing anything to the crowd and I don't care a monkey's what it looked like on TV. I know what I did and didn't do."

Ince also said he should only receive a one-match ban for the two

yellow card offences, and not a lengthier penalty. "Two yellow cards is a one-match ban," he said. "I'm gutted to be missing one international, any attempt to make it any more would be very unfair."

The player then pleaded further mitigating circumstances, and said he had been attempting to play the ball when he picked up his second yellow card, for bringing down Celtic's Henrik Larsson.

"I went for the ball, it's as simple as that. That is what my game is all about," Ince said. "He was very quick and got away from me a bit. But I was committed to the challenge and was just unlucky the way it happened."

It was not a malicious tackle at all," Ince was supported by Roy Evans, who said his player's reputation had had more to do with his bookings than his actions. Evans said: "Why should people pillory Paul Ince? He's a very competitive player and he's on the field to win games. Neither of the tackles for which he was booked was vindictive nor designed to cause injury. Maybe they were slightly mistimed and maybe Paul's reputation preceded him."

"Paul has such a passion and desire to win, he was also very angry at seeing his team lose when he was on the field in Sweden. You can say he should control that, but when you are

out in the middle of the pitch it is not easy to do."

"I don't see him as an assassin. He goes for the ball and more often than not he gets it. I'm not condoning him getting sent off, but if you take that passion away from his game you don't have the Paul Ince everyone wants to see."

"People forget the form he showed in the World Cup and also the qualifying game in Italy. It's sad that in trying to compete, people have a go at him."

Uefa will decide on the length of Ince's ban at its next disciplinary committee meeting, later this month, and will almost certainly ban him from

England's next game, against Bulgaria at Wembley in October. Whether he will be penalised further will depend on whether Saturday's Italian referee, Pierluigi Collina, reports that Ince abused the crowd or not.

Meanwhile yesterday, the Aston Villa manager, John Gregory, confirmed his interest in signing Middlesbrough's Paul Merson. A meeting scheduled for yesterday between Merson and Bryan Robson, the Boro manager - for the player to seek a release from the club - did not happen, but Gregory said: "I can confirm that I have spoken to Bryan Robson about the Paul Merson situation."

Tottenham could face a £5m com-

pensation bill if they try to lure George Graham from Leeds to replace Christian Gross. It is thought that a clause inserted into the new contract Graham signed with the Etihad Road club last December would require Tottenham to pay £5m just to speak to him. "George signed a new contract last year, which runs until 2001. Anyone who asks permission to speak to him will be told 'no'," Leeds' chairman, Peter Ridsdale, said.

Andy Coram, the former Rangers and Scotland goalkeeper, has signed for Sheffield United. Blackburn Rovers have made a £3m offer for Rangers' unsettled Italian midfielder, Gennaro Gattuso.



Nixon McLean, the Hampshire fast bowler, beats Peter Martin's bat to wrap up the Lancashire innings but the home side still sealed the AXA trophy at Old Trafford yesterday Ben Duffy

## United to add 12,000 seats at Old Trafford

BY GUY HODGSON

AMID THE controversy surrounding BSkyB's attempt to buy Manchester United, the club announced yesterday they are to expand Old Trafford's capacity, taking it from the current 53,300 to 67,400.

The scheme, which will cost £30m and will go ahead even if BSkyB's bid fails, will be completed by 2001, and make Old Trafford the biggest club ground in Britain. Celtic Park in Glasgow is currently the largest with 60,000 seats.

Plans have been submitted to Trafford Council and if permission is given work will begin on adding tiers to the current Stretford End and Scoreboard End Stands next summer. This follows the opening of the new triple-tiered North Stand, which cost £27m, in 1995-96.

The plan will alleviate United's chronic problem of supply and demand. There are 120,000 members fighting over 12,000 tickets for every home game after 40,000 season ticket holders and 3,000 visiting supporters have been accommodated. In FA Cup ties, where opposition fans get a greater share, the problem is exacerbated.

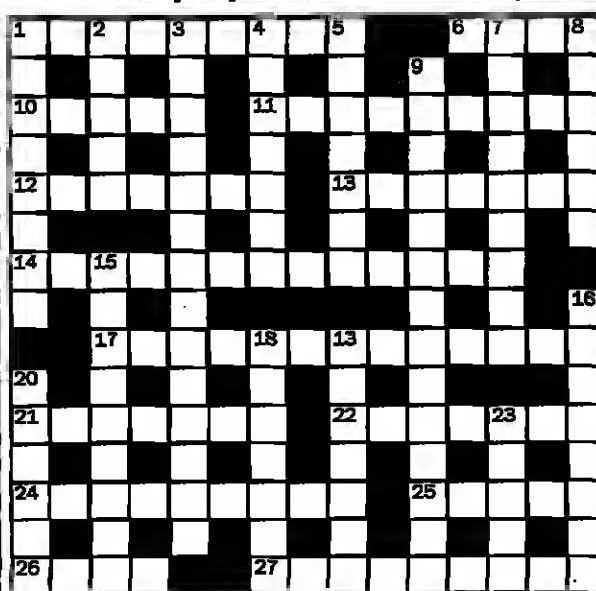
The proposed scheme was greeted guardedly by fans. "I'd welcome the increased capacity if the club said a portion of it would be made available for open sale," Lee Hodgkiss of the Independent Supporters' association, said. "The true local fans would get a chance to watch matches."

## THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3710. Tuesday 8 September

By Aclred

Monday's Solution



1. CLOUTIER  
2. SERENADE  
3. PALMERSTON  
4. BASH  
5. R. F. O. S. E. U.  
6. INSIGNIA  
7. HELENA  
8. S. E. Y. O. I.  
9. SPOT  
10. HARRIGAN  
11. H. E. S. I. O.  
12. WINDUOWN  
13. Y. I. O. O.  
14. MANGLE  
15. OVERRULE  
16. D. I. S. C. O. U. R. A. G. E.  
17. D. I. S. S. E. M. I. N. A.  
18. S. H. E. E. T. M. U. S. I. C.  
19. E. A. E. D. I. N. N.  
20. P. R. O. M. P. T. L. Y.  
21. O. O. D. L. E. S.

## ACROSS

- 1 Exerting pressure to hold back in applying sanctions (9)
- 6 A live daughter but not yet active (4)
- 10 Rosie makes up a basket from this? (5)
- 11 Tensely perhaps but in a way that cannot be bettered (9)
- 12 Calculations are rejected by old scholar (7)
- 13 Put foot heavily on the French foot control (7)
- 14 Oboe refinement could make one late (3, 4, 4)
- 17 BP not British, dispensing with it? (13)
- 21 Cliff provides home for one bird as ordered (7)

## DOWN

- 2 Material for making ice-cream with reduced energy content (7)
- 24 Male upset Camilla with name of old PM (9)
- 25 Graduate thus is at the lowest level (5)
- 26 See short tape (4)
- 27 Shout so returning to manage freezing point funder (9)
- 1 They're called programmes (5-3)
- 2 Nigerian purchaser would turn over umorthodox type (5)
- 3 Trusteeship aim to clear up complaint (5, 9)
- 4 One with little time works round over thick paint (7)
- 5 Method of killing decay in entrance (7)

- 7 However one has to eat to take in energy from this hydrocarbon (9)
- 8 Something used for the rest of one's waking hours (3, 3)
- 9 Scripture bias limiting European must be put right, other things being equal (7, 7)
- 15 Took sound steps to provide entertainment (3-6)
- 16 Bunch could be facile about science (8)
- 18 Note what cycle has? (6, 1)
- 19 Marshal goes after male East Enders (7)
- 20 Like one to produce action mostly, being a writer (6)
- 23 Male is party to sin (5)

## Lancashire pick up AXA title

BY JON CULLEY  
at Old Trafford

Lancashire 202  
Hampshire 186-7  
Lancashire won by 16 runs

LANCASHIRE COLLECTED their second trophy in little more than 24 hours when a 16-run victory over Hampshire clinched the AXA League title before an enthusiastic home crowd at Old Trafford.

Basking in the glow of Sunday's triumph over Derbyshire in the NatWest Trophy final, Lancashire recovered from a slow start to total 202 in 40 overs, thanks mainly to 68 off 58 balls by the 20-year-old Andrew Flintoff.

Robin Smith threatened to spoil the party as he hit 44 off 66 balls but, once he had been dismissed in the 34th over, Hampshire's challenge fell away.

A recurrence of Michael Atherton's back trouble forced Lancashire to make one change to their successful Hampshire line-up, introducing 21-year-old Mark Chilton in place of the former England captain.

But it was to the more established youngster Flintoff that Lancashire were indebted for injecting their innings with substance after Wasim Akram had won the toss.

In a sluggish start, Lancashire were reduced to 50 for 3 in 15 overs. John Crawley, whose unbeaten 53 helped ease the way to victory at Lord's, fell for seven yesterday, skewing a drive to Shaun Udal at point off

Dimitri Mascarenhas, then Chilton's stumps were shattered by Peter Hartley before Neil Fairbrother steered a catch to the wicketkeeper Adrian Aymes off John Stephenson's first delivery.

However, Flintoff happened upon just the right moment to recover his form after enduring something of a drought, having scored only 110 runs in 16 innings in all cricket since making 70 against Warwickshire in the Championship on 29 June. Yesterday, he struck 68 off only 58 balls in a characteristic exhibition of powerful hitting that included three sixes and four other boundaries before becoming a second victim for Mascarenhas.

Flintoff's partnership with Graham Lloyd added 110 in 16 overs but when Lloyd was stumped on the legside by Aymes a collapse followed, the last six wickets falling for 36 runs in seven overs with the West Indian Nixon McLean wrapping up the tail.

Hampshire still had something to play for, needing to consolidate their position in the top half of the table to ensure they start next season's new National League in the top division.

At 75 for 2 after 20 overs they were falling behind the clock after Stephenson had driven Ian Austin to mid-off and Giles White, dropped behind the stumps on 13, departed in similar fashion off Wasim Akram.

A partnership of 96 between their captain Robin Smith and Will Kendall took them to 149

before the former England batsman gave a thin edge to the wicketkeeper Warren Hegg in the 34th over. Smith, who survived a very hard chance to Crawley at extra cover on 35, fell for 44 with Hampshire still needing 54.

That sparked a middle-order collapse that proved decisive in tipping the scales in Lancashire's favour as Kendall sliced Peter Martin to Ian Austin at third man before Mascarenhas saw his stumps flattened by the same bowler.

With 31 still needed, Martin claimed his third success when Chapple took a superb catch on the long-on boundary to remove McLean, and Hampshire's chance finally expired when Wasim bowled Matthew Keech.

Meanwhile, Lancashire's committee were meeting last night to decide on their overseas player and captain for next season.

They were expected to announce Muttiah Muralitharan, the Sri Lankan off-spinner, as replacement for Wasim Akram, ending the Pakistani all-rounder's 10-year association with the county.

The departure of Wasim, on whose advice, ironically, Lancashire went in pursuit of Muralitharan, will be greeted with mixed feelings by county members, who have seen him play a significant role in Lancashire's treble bid. John Crawley is favourite to take over as captain. More cricket, scoreboard, page 19

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THE INDEPENDENT

8 September 1998

# TUESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

BY JOHN WALSH

**W**here will you have lunch today? Seated at your desk with a carry-out bag of Prêt à Manger sandwiches (you poor, sad workaholic) or flooring a steak frites in your local Café Rouge or Browns or Chez Gerard? And where will you dine this evening? At your kitchen table with an ageing pork chop from the fridge and some McCain's chips, or at one of Sir Terence Conran's still-trendy Gastrorome palaces beside Tower Bridge? And will your breakfast tomorrow be a boiled egg and soldiers chez vous, or a hearty platter of Toulouse sausages and hash browns at one of the flash new eateries that's about to spring up round the corner from your fashionable duplex?

It's apparently likely these days, that your answers will all be "the latter". But if you're so weirdly old-fashioned that you still like eating in, still perversely prefer the home-made and the personal-amateur approach to the preparation and consumption of food, don't panic: you won't behave like this for much longer. According to a hundred infallible social-trend signifiers, the British attitude to eating in restaurants has undergone a complete makeover. From now on, we're all going to be spending a lot more time in the company of the à la carte, the amusing House White, the cheese board and the waiter called Rutger who, blithely risking a satirical and/or abusive response, boldly asks: "Would you care to hear today's specials?"

Restaurants are hip as never before – not through sightings of opinion-forming celebrities languidly dismembering crab claws in Shaftesbury Avenue, but because of some frankly incredible financial coups. For a month or so, City pages have been full of whisperings, rumours, confirmations and stunned analyses of a series of mergers, floats and takeovers. One day, Mogens Tholstrup, sells his flash, post-yuppie troughs – Dagnæs and Pasta and The Collection – to the Belgio chain for £5.5m in cash and £1.5m in shares. Barely an ink dry on the Belgio chequebook stub when its boss, Mike Johnson (who started out as co-founder of Pizza Express), buys The Ivy and Le Caprice from Charles Corbin and Jeremy King, their co-owners (and perma-smiling "greeters") for £13.4m. The Pharmacy restaurant, started in Notting Hill earlier this year by the fashionable troika of Damien Hirst, Matthew Freud and Liam Carson, is not only being floated on the Stock Exchange via a "shell company" (its worth assessed at anything between £7 and £10m), but its owners are hoping to open similar, medication-filled, pill-themed-but-strangely-no-Pills premises in Germany, France, and America. Terence Conran is about to open his newest London chow-plaza, the Coq d'Argent, this month, and another in Paris in October, edging the value of his gustatory empire over the £100m mark. Marco Pierre White is threatening to take his restaurants public to the tune of £30m. And as for Nico Ladenis and Gary Rhodes... For many top chefs, acquiring the three letters plc seems temporarily to outweigh the attraction of acquiring a third Michelin star.

But how, I can hear you asking, how in God's name can these figures be justified? What insanely optimistic projections could possibly conclude that The Pharmacy, for all the excellence of its cuisine and the comeliness of its waiters in their bow-tied theatre gowns, is worth 10 million quid – or more to the point, will still be worth anything like that in two years' time? Restaurants – the accepted wisdom goes – are more subject to the whims of fashion and the caprices of popular taste than any other industry, even the clothing trade. Why should chud-up City investors be throwing money at high-concept eating houses



## Feeding frenzy

Britain is bursting  
to the seams with  
fancy restaurants,  
but still we're  
hungry for more.  
And the culinary  
fat cats behind  
every new opening  
are getting fatter  
and fatter

whose popularity could at any moment disappear, like the waiting-list at Aubergine after Gordon Ramsay's departure, or the froth on your cappuccino? How can Terence Conran keep installing new restaurants in the metropolis at the rate of 23 a month? Won't the first signs of recession or decelerated economy drive people out of restaurants and back to the cheap comfort zone of microwaves and Delia Smith recipes?

The answer lies in the demographics. We are, it seems, in the middle of a spectacular sea-change in the way the British eat. The trend is most prevalent in London, admittedly, but the rest of the nation is catching up fast. The restaurant trade is currently in the throes of a colossal bull market. Currently worth £23 billion, it is set to increase by 24 per cent over the next four years. It's fantastic. Not so much a bull market as a three-course Rib of Beef With Shalots and Polenta Finished With a Madeira Sauce market. And for every poob-poohing City sceptic who says the eating-out boom won't sustain, there's a specialist in restaurant trend analysis who thinks we're only at the hors d'oeuvre stage.

At Foodservice Intelligence, one such trend-spotting agency, Peter Backman recently told a Sunday paper about the concept of the "food dollar" and the "food

pound" – i.e. the amount we each spend on food, and in what form we acquire it. "Twenty five years ago in the United States," he said, "29 cents of the food dollar was spent on eating out, and now that figure is 50 cents. In Britain, it is only 29p in the pound and that is growing by up to a penny a year. We are about 25 years behind, and there is a lot of growth to come."

You could, however, have guessed otherwise from looking about you. London in late summer, in the last blissful throes of the alfresco lunch, is simply crammed with restaurants crammed with people who might not long ago have been doing something else. Once, young wage slaves went to the pub after work. Then the wine bar trade started up, as male *amour propre* demanded classier drinks and female drinkers demanded less smoky, macho atmospheres. Now, every new restaurant seems to have its own bar area. Conran's Pont de la Tour and Bibendum both have an "Oyster Bar" where you can drink champagne or Czech beers for £5. Friday night drinkers in the streets around the BBC, instead of plunging into the fiddly gloom of the local pubs, now decamp en masse to Great Portland Street and the

downstairs bars at Mash, the newest restaurant opened by Oliver Peyton, who made his name with the Atlantic, whose focal point is its bar and its wicked way with vodkatinis. Drive around Oxford Street at 6.30 pm any evening and you'll find the enormous Japanese restaurant Wagamama (which was launched with City money) pulsulating with drinkers.

And just as restaurants now come with bars the way labradors come with fleas, so fashionable shops cannot operate these days, it seems, without a cool canteen attached. Joe's Cafe, the archly-titled restaurant in Fulham Road, was where shoppers at Joseph (Ettinger's) were supposed to go to chill out after looking through all that exciting grey knitwear. Then Nicole Farhi opened a restaurant inside her shop. So, soon after, in a bit of a rush, did Alberta Ferretti, French Connection, Donna Karan and Giorgio Armani in their London outlets. The hyper-trendy Manhattan-style Urban Outfitters shop in High Street Kensington sports a cafe. Borders, the new uber-bookshop in Oxford Street, will feed those in the thrall of the imputdownable.

Once, within living memory, you took your date to a pub for a pre-dinner gin-and-tonic, or a wine bar for a spritzer or glass

of Kir Royale, before approaching the shrine-like doors of a restaurant, within which all was hushed and deferential, and light classics or cool vibraphones tinkled on the speakers. Once, dining out was a rare and expensive treat, mostly confined to birthdays, anniversaries and/or protestations of love. There were three courses and wine rituals and strict protocols of behaviour (can you believe there was a time when lady guests were expected to order what they wanted by shyly informing their gentleman friend, rather than telling the waiter?) Now eating in restaurants is what you do between drinking, talking and greeting other people as they arrive to join your party.

Some think it's all to do with women – or, at least, women who do not share men's capacity to absorb large quantities of drink without eating. Rather than listen to their girlfriends say one more time, "Darling, I have got to eat something or I'll die" at seven in the evening, men will try the radical solution of going to a restaurant after work, staying there, and letting the starving consort pick away at a Caesar Salad if she feels like it. Conversely, those wanting to circumvent what remains of the

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk  
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

## Murdoch's bid

Sir: My nine-year-old son loves Manchester United Football Club with a passion which is heart-wrenching, even though he has only ever seen them on television. His bedroom is a shrine to Man U, full of merchandise we have bought him - despite misgivings at their callous commercialisation - because of his affection for the lads who play in the "Theatre of Dreams".

However, if the club is taken over by Rupert Murdoch, not only shall I be asking for a refund of our membership fees, but I shall do all in my power to redirect his loyalties to a more worthy target. It should be easy, as he will no longer have the opportunity to see his team play.

It was bad enough to see the club becoming the "Theatre of Dosh". A "Theatre of Media Domination" is something I will have no part of.  
DAVID A SKINNER  
Tervuren, Belgium

Sir: I am a Manchester United shareholder and lifelong supporter. There is one way that Rupert Murdoch can get his hands on my share certificate - to pry it from my cold, dead hands.  
PAUL RICHARDS  
London W6

## Futile 'drugs war'

Sir: Having lost two young patients in the past month from the injecting of a particularly pure form of heroin that appears to be currently available on the streets of London, leaving behind an orphaned eight-year-old and fatherless seven-year-old, I feel extremely angry.

David Macaulay's article explaining why he quit as the director of Scotland Against Drugs (Comment, 4 September) said nothing new ("education has to be at the forefront, availability must be reduced, must shift the culture" etc) and quitting is not going to help.

We must get away from the "war on drugs" and get into the field of "peaceful negotiation", as in Northern Ireland. Education has failed our children, who are dying. Reducing availability has failed. Changing the culture is a long-term goal, which might ultimately succeed.

We must listen to our youngsters who want desperately to get out of the grip of heroin and other drugs but cannot, largely because of the illegality of their action.

We must consider providing locally based, user-friendly, legal, controlled, specialist outlets for these drugs so that young people can get and administer their drugs in clinical and social safety. And then we must provide the rehabilitation facilities in which they can be guided back into society and in which they can be trained in the skills which will enable them to make a positive contribution. This approach will immediately reduce the crime rate, it will put the current providers out of business and it will reduce the appalling mortality rates from drug use. For the sake of our children and grandchildren, let's talk about it.  
DR NICK MAURICE  
General Practitioner  
Marlborough, Wiltshire

Sir: It is a good thing that David Macaulay has resigned as director of Scotland Against Drugs. He criticises the Government for being ineffective in tackling the drugs problem, but the only positive suggestion he makes is that "the availability of drugs on our streets must be drastically reduced". He says, "Enforcement is key."

What on earth does this mean? Enforcement has never worked. It does not work now and it never will. It is the only thing we have ever tried and the demand for drugs has continued to escalate. Mr Macaulay is right to criticise the Government: they cannot



Continuing our series on the Portuguese fishery, the first rays of dawn find the fishermen already at sea

Rui Xavier

succeed if most of their effort is concentrated on enforcement and so little is spent on helping those whose misuse of drugs causes problems to themselves and society. Mr Macaulay seems to be proposing that we waste further resources in doing even more of the wrong things.

The only solution is to try to bring drugs under reasonable legal control. When the criminals cease to have a monopoly over the supply and distribution of drugs, drug-related crime and deaths will diminish. Then, harmful use can be openly discouraged and those who have a problem will come forward and be helped without fear of repression.

MICK HUMPHREYS  
Creech, St Michael,  
Somerset

Sir: David Macaulay states that the global drug business represents 8 per cent of world trade ("the same as the oil business"), that it is responsible for 70 per cent of thefts in the UK and, that it costs the NHS a huge amount. He says the profits of the criminal drug business are so great that serious bank robbery is in terminal decline, and yet he is against the decriminalisation of drugs.

Why do the UK and US governments continue to ignore the lessons of US alcohol prohibition between the wars?  
GEORGE HORNEY  
Bournemouth, Dorset

## Remembered bells

Sir: Quentin King is fortunate indeed if the cyclists of Brighton "show polite respect for pedestrians" (letter, 3 September). I have always walked whenever possible in central London, in suburbs and in the country, and am sorry to say that, in my experience, polite cyclists are

increasingly the exception rather than the rule. While I can sympathise with their problems, these do not give the right to ignore traffic lights or pedestrian crossings, go the wrong way up one-way streets, ride on pavements when the road is perfectly safe, or hassle pedestrians.

What really puzzles me, however, is the disappearance of the bicycle bell. Nowadays the standard methods of alerting pedestrians are a shout, an aggressive whistle, or a sudden screech of brakes from behind accompanied by (at best) a glare. The old bell was clear and friendly. Can anyone tell me where it has gone?

JOHN BURCHELL  
Old Coulsdon,  
Surrey

Sir: How curious that the famous healer Jack Temple should diagnose Diana, Princess of Wales, as suffering from lead poisoning as the consequence of piercing her cheek with a sharp lead pencil (Deborah Ross interview, 7 September). "Lead" pencils have not contained lead for over a century, lead having been replaced by graphite as the black core. It does make one wonder how reliable his other diagnoses are.

JOHN CROOKS  
Teddington, Middlesex

Sir: If Bill Clinton decides finally to confront his accusers rather than cravenly trying to appease them, he might take heart from the following observation:

"It's too frequent with noble men to be dishonest; piety, chastity and such like virtues are for private men: not to be

## Battle of the Mall

Sir: I am embarrassed to be associated with the cant of Trevor Roberts (letter, 4 September), being a member of the Royal Town Planning Institute, over which he presides.

The planning permission for the soon-to-open centre at Trafford was not issued glibly nor without lengthy and rigorous consideration of the likely traffic and town-centre impact. Throughout the 13 years of planning this scheme, objectors, such as Mr Roberts, have had full opportunity to present all the evidence to support their case. This evidence was scrutinised by the best available independent planning inspectors and the decision was tested through legal challenge by the objectors right

through to the House of Lords.

There is massive support and mounting excitement amongst those without vested interests in the North-west, about the opening of a world-leading urban regeneration project, which has cost the public purse nothing. People like their leisure and shopping. It does not come any better than this. Why should this job-creating redevelopment of derelict land still be questioned by objectors who have had more than enough opportunity to have their say?

TONY TAPLEY  
Partner, Head of Planning  
Rappley, Commercial Property  
and Planning Consultants  
London W1

Sir: The £500m Trafford Centre in Greater Manchester ("The mall

that ate Manchester", 2 September) exemplifies all that is wrong about our over-designed and modernised age. It will have everything we want, and nothing we really need.

It is a prime example of what are called "edge cities" in the US - designed places full of plazas, malls, parking lots and corporate opportunity, offering the "total living and shopping experience". But no one actually likes them. They have no history, no civic structure, no sense of community.

Orange County in southern California has three edge cities, and is described by the authorities as "a theme park - and the theme is you can have anything you want." This is a terrible and taunting myth. Everything is so perfect, say the authorities, why should anyone want to change any of it? Indeed, some cities have deed restrictions that prevent people from customising their own homes. There are 2,000 edge cities in the US.

Some 50 per cent of people living in Britain's cities are said to want to move to the countryside. But do they really want ghost towns or dormitory villages? Most are in search of some kind of life, places rich in community spirit, where there is a sense of place and history. People want local shops, schools, pubs and churches. Yet each year we lose 1,000 local food shops. Now 45 per cent of all rural parishes no longer have a shop or post office, and 60 per cent have no school.

Let us find ways to protect our rural and urban communities - not ruin them with brave new and spiritless developments.

JULES PRETTY  
Director  
Centre for Environment and  
Society  
University of Essex  
Colchester

## Lockerbie challenge

Sir: The two Pan Am Flight 103 relatives who met the Foreign Secretary on 24 August did not know from the meeting how limited the progress on Lockerbie has been.

On the face of it, it seemed good that something had been done to break the seven-year impasse. We welcomed the decision by the UK and the US to accept Libya's offer to give up the two bombing suspects for trial in a third country. (Apparently this caused the US no pain as they had long ago given up on the trial being in the US.) We were told the deal required a lot of negotiation separately between Britain and US, and between Britain and the Netherlands, where the trial is supposed to be held under Scottish law. Libya, which would in the end have to be a party to any agreement, was never involved.

For the record, the draft UK-Netherlands agreement has not been signed, nor has the Queen signed the Order in Council necessary for the trial to go ahead. It is not surprising that Gaddafi has not agreed to an offer that lacks substance. Madeleine Albright's telling Libya to take it or leave it was an extraordinary gaffe, but no one has told her off. The UN was put in a silly position as the messenger.

I ask the Government three questions:

1. Do you intend to find out why 36 UK citizens were murdered on Flight 103, who was criminally responsible, and how could it have happened, given the warnings and the intelligence services? (These are not my words but those of Baroness Symons, Minister of State, at a meeting with relatives in March 1998)

2. Do you agree that the relatives want the truth, and that without the truth there can be no justice?

3. Do you agree that if you want the trial, the UK, not the UN, must negotiate directly with Libya?  
MARTIN CADMAN  
Burnham Market, Norfolk

The writers' son, Bill Cadman, was on Flight 103

## Facts without soap

Sir: By implying that we are elevating "thieves, drug addicts and even murderers" to celebrity status ("Prisoners to become stars of fly-on-the-wall documentary", 31 August) you have misrepresented my contribution to the debate on docu-soaps at the Edinburgh Television Festival. My precise point was: we on *Inside Story* are not in the business of gratuitously glorifying serious subjects.

During the debate I was clarifying the definition of docu-soaps. As the producer of two docu-soaps, *Cruise and Soho Stories*, I am well aware of their popularity. But I was stressing that these are very different from my work on factual output, such as *Inside Story*, and reminding the debate that there is still a place for traditional documentary subjects about important issues of the day.

To illustrate my point, I spoke about the filming of a women's prison in Yorkshire. It is still early days; it was commissioned as an *Inside Story*, and might even become a series, but what it will not be is a soap opera trivialising people's lives. Months of hard work will hopefully result in a programme that significantly contributes to our understanding of the stresses and pressures that confront those living and working in a prison environment.

By using trusted documentary making techniques - gaining access to a women's prison and building relationships with contributors - we have a unique opportunity to show the audience some hard truths about Britain in the late 20th century.  
CHRISTOPHER TERRILL  
Senior Producer  
Documentaries Department  
BBC Production  
London W12

## Land girl found hiding in Wilts thought WWII was still on

HOW WELL do you follow the news? Well? Very well? So well that you actually watch the BBC 24 Hour News service, which not even John Birt does?

Then how would you like to test your knowledge of current affairs? All you have to do is read the following six stories taken from the last week and decide which ones are true and which are false.

Are you ready to put your money where your mouth is? Then let's go!

1. In one of the longest-running legal cases in the north of England, Mr Thomas Pettigrew has been suing a large airport for invasion of his property while building a new runway. The case had only been running for seven years when Mr Pettigrew suddenly died six months ago. His son, Dan, has inherited the property and the law suit, for he is

determined to win where his father never quite succeeded. But Sir Ernest Chalmers, the judge who was trying the case has also recently died and his place has been taken, by an extraordinary coincidence, by his son, Nigel Chalmers. It is believed to be the first time a legal case has gone to the second generation on both sides.

"It is a tribute to the British legal system," says an expert. "In some countries you'd get the law rushing in and trying to settle a case hastily while all parties to it were still alive. In Britain, thank goodness, we still take our time."

2. Rupert Murdoch originally wanted to buy the England football team, not the Manchester United club. But he was persuaded by experts that as England was only allowed to pick English players, not

expensive French and Italian imports, it was never likely to become a winning proposition and he went for Manchester United instead. He was also warned by experts that although Manchester United was extremely wealthy, it was also one of the most hated clubs in the world. He said he knew the feeling and went ahead with the deal.

3. A ghastly mix-up occurred in a small village in Kent, when Neighbourhood Watch member Sheila McBonnet noticed that the windows of Rose Cottage were wide open, even though the occupants, the Melchior family, were on holiday. Miss McBonnet bravely climbed through the ground floor window to search the house for intruders. Meanwhile, Col Rodney Anson (ret'd), also active in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, passed by

the house five minutes later and spotted an intruder moving around inside the Melchior family house.



**MILES KINGSTON**  
Now in her late seventies, she had never seen television, computers or The Beatles

which was supposed to be empty. Very courageously he too entered the house and tackled the supposed robber. Sheila McBonnet fought back viciously, thinking she had been attacked by the burglar. By the time Sheila McBonnet and Col Anson (ret'd) had recognised each other, they had inflicted painful bodily harm on each other.

"It is believed to be the first example of two members of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme attacking each other," commented a local police spokesman. "Luckily, neither of them preferred charges, which suited us fine, as we needed all available manpower to get after the burglar." When it was pointed out to the police that there was in fact no burglary, he said: "Oops, you've got a point there. Luckily we made absolutely no progress anyway."

4. A small partial eclipse of the sun which was due to take place in South America last week did not in fact happen. This was apparently because it failed to attract any local business sponsorship. Scientists see it as a first sinister sign of natural phenomena becoming dependent on subsidies and handouts.

5. Rex Stainforth had been working for five years on a book about urban mythology, and was in fact en route to the publishers with his manuscript when he decided to stop off for a drink. When he came out of the pub he got back into the wrong car and drove off. He only realised his mistake when, looking in the glove compartment for the typescript at a red traffic light, he found a severed hand. Then a voice from the back seat said loudly and clearly: "Put all three of your hands

up!" Stainforth jumped from the car and ran for his life until he found another pub. He was about to order a drink when he realised that the barman only had one hand, and was looking at him very oddly...

6. An elderly land girl has been found alive and well living in Savernake Forest in Wiltshire, apparently convinced that the Second World War was still going on. Thinking that the Germans were almost certainly winning, she had kept very much to herself for 50 years. Now in her late seventies, she had never seen television, computers or The Beatles. Now that she has, she doesn't think much of them.

Well? Spot the wrong 'uns? That's right - well done! They were all false except the story involving Ken Livingstone and the inflatable Jeffrey Archer doll.

July 20 1998



# THE INDEPENDENT

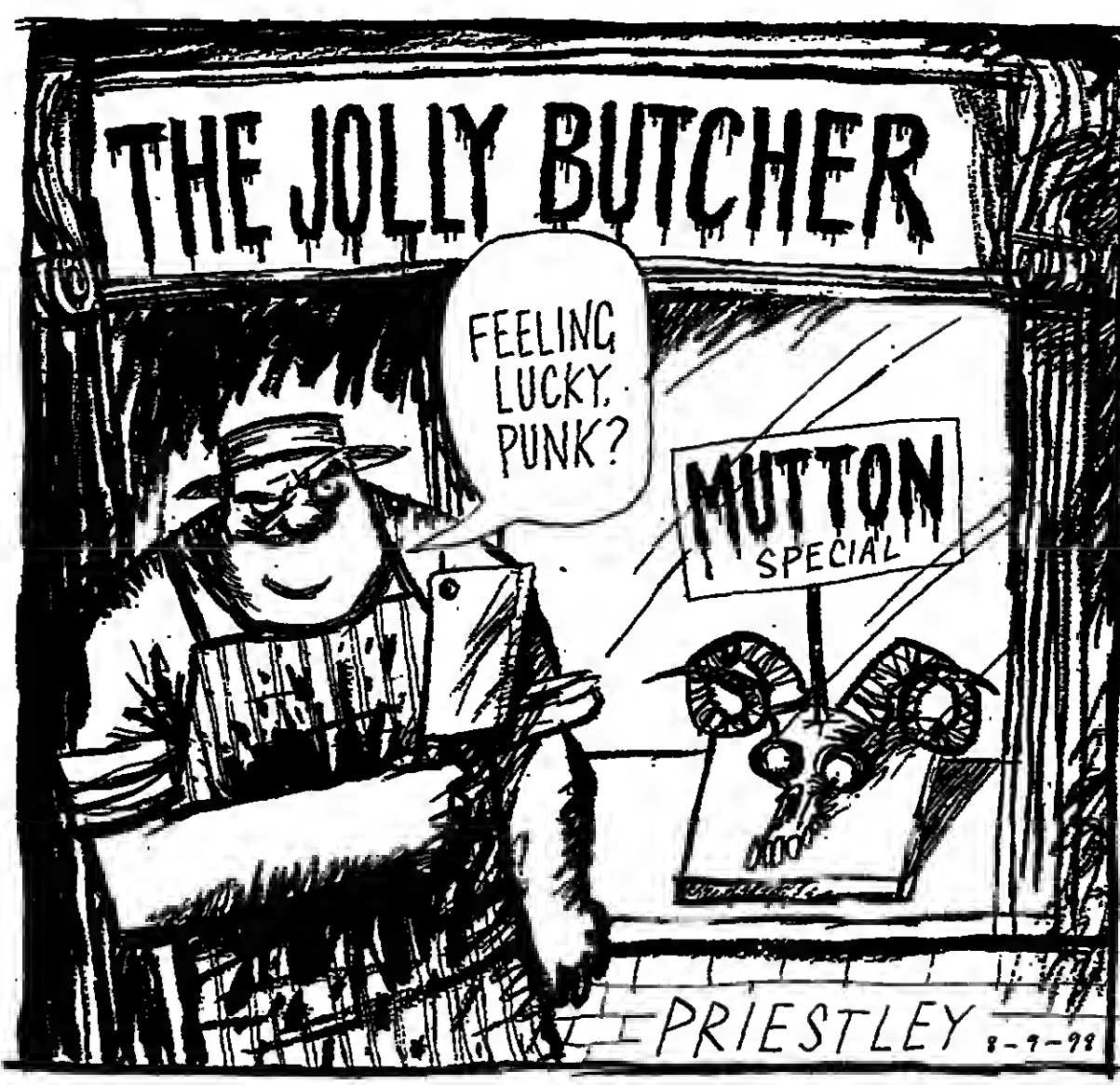
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## Mr Hague's stunt is a sideshow to the real euro debate

THE DECISION by the Leader of the Opposition to bring forward his ballot of party members on his European policy may or may not be born out of panic, but it certainly looks that way. The announcement was unexpected and dramatic. In political terms, it was the kind of showy move that has not so far been characteristic of Mr Hague's leadership of his party. The move has succeeded in commanding attention and in gaining the initiative for him, at a time when the Eurosceptics in his party have been again voicing their reservations about the official policy on the euro, and when even Lady Thatcher, albeit for very different reasons, has been casting doubt on his ability to win the next election. It is easy to see how Mr Hague will gain some short-term political advantage from his hastily arranged plebiscite. But it is much harder to perceive the lasting good it will do him, his party or the country.

Mr Hague is a shrewd man and has obviously calculated that most Tory party members will back him. The grass roots are by no means all Eurosceptic, but doubt about the European project, often co-existing with a nostalgia for Maggie, is well represented amongst the more active elements, the ones, importantly, most likely to bother to vote (will telephone voting be an option, by the way?). Moreover, the Conservative membership has, after all, already backed Mr Hague's leadership in a nationwide one-member-one-vote ballot, and would be loath to contradict themselves by humiliating Mr Hague now. By appealing over the heads of the Europhile grandees, he will be able to answer the criticisms that will inevitably emerge at the fringes of the Conservative Party conference by pointing at the overwhelming backing of his membership. The line will be clear; the grandees are out of date and out of touch; look at the result of our referendum. The critics should shut up and go away.

No doubt Mr Hague will get his way. But his referendum will not silence his critics, and nor should it. First, they and he know the precise nature of this particular vote. Asking your own members to, in effect, "back me or sack me", is to up the stakes to the point where only the most suicidal would be prepared to lose yet another leader on the European issue. Making it an issue of leadership as much as policy is a distortion of the proper use of a referendum to which political leaders are prey when in a tight corner. The second doubt surrounds the extent of the debate that will be possible. Why hold the debate in the short time remaining before the party conference, rather than at the conference itself? Debate



is, after all, what conferences are for, even in an era of OMOV fetishism. The third query surrounds what Mr Hague and his spin doctors will take to be an "overwhelming" endorsement of the leadership line. If past trends are anything to go on, this will be modest indeed, with expectations, especially about a low turnout, carefully massaged.

Most seriously of all, it is a perversion of democracy to take, as the Tory leadership imply, a given result in a rather rickety vote as a signal to silence debate. This is, as all would agree, one of the most important, fundamental, far-reaching decisions for a political party to take. It is incumbent upon all in the Tory Party to speak out

for what they believe in, and put "country before party". Mr Hague's critics may or may not be out-of-touch with the party's grass-roots. But even if they are, that does not make them wrong, and it does not make it wrong for them to voice their doubts about the wisdom of Mr Hague's policy. One suspects that, when it comes to the real referendum on joining the euro, the one that the British people as a whole will vote in, the voices of those who appear to be in such a beleaguered minority in Mr Hague's party will find a much more sympathetic hearing than they will in Mr Hague's new stunt. It is Mr Hague who will look out of touch and old-fashioned when the people speak.

## It is time the West understood Islam

IRAN CONTINUES to deny that her disputes with Taliban-controlled Afghanistan will lead to open conflict. Border clashes, and the disappearance of Iranians in Afghan territory, while serious, do not seem a reason for all-out war: but there is more to their rivalry than that. Fundamentalist Afghanistan has turned to Pakistan as its protector; Iran, in the process of liberalisation and rapprochement with the West, faces the prospect of maintaining a long and unstable border with an absolutist anti-Western state. She has turned to Russia as her only available sponsor, reviving military and economic links from the 1980s.

Beyond those immediate political realities, there is the clash between two Islamic traditions, a new Iranian Shi'ite pragmatism and Afghan Sunni radicalism. Those who have tried to paint Islam as one great bloc, from Morocco in the West to Indonesia in the East, should think again: religious and political differences in that world are as rife as in Europe.

A glance at the map shows how many trouble spots surround Afghanistan. Pakistan and India look on anxiously in their own nuclear Cold War; Saddam Hussein would dearly love Iran to be distracted. The ex-Soviet states of Central Asia are economically vulnerable as the price of their oil falls; Russia's crisis would be exacerbated if they were to be drawn into war once again.

The West, used to seeing Iran as an enemy, should realise that times - and nations - change. Iran may now act as a bulwark of stability against a renegade Afghanistan. Madeline Albright's recent attempts to build bridges with Iran have been welcome, but we should go further, and stop demonising great tracts of the rest of the Islamic world. A policy of engagement is long overdue.

## A proper charlie

ADVOCATES OF constitutional reform may as well have been handed the 10th Earl of Hardwicke's head on a platter. A 27-year-old hereditary peer is allegedly caught selling cocaine in the House of Lords. Theoretically there for last week's anti-terrorism legislation, he said he wouldn't vote because he couldn't be bothered. His only role within the Conservative Party is as a member of two committees - film and motor scooters - though he rarely goes to meetings. He turns up twice a week at the Lords to collect his £140-a-day attendance allowance. Three cheers for the stupid toff! And good riddance to the House of Lords...

# Adultery, wife-swapping and the complicated sexual mores of today

IT IS not surprising that the most successful newspaper in Britain today is *Adultery News* (sold under the euphemistic moniker of the *Daily Mail*), which devotes itself almost solely to tales of infidelities, both ancient and modern. In Saturday's shamefully exciting edition, for instance, we might discover the post-Great War tale of the then Prince of Wales's passionate affair with the wife of a Liberal MP, Freda Dudley Ward.

And then, yesterday, came an equally enthralling episode dealing with the illicit liaison between his brother (later George VI) and Sheila, Lady Loughborough who, appropriately, was an Australian. But this was to be found only after we had drawn the net curtains again on pieces dealing with the latest accusations against Bill Clinton, and the delightful story of how a Seventies wife-swapping session cost Richard Branson his greatest love.

Nothing gets us going like bonking out of turn. Not least, apparently, because infidelity justifies a level of interest in the minutiae of other people's sexual lives that marriage never does. When was the last time you read about a husband and wife enjoying a "steamy romp", or revealing that so and so (their partner of 20 years) was a two-times-a-night man? Never, that's when. By contrast, also in yesterday's *Adultery News*, a man called Daniel Jeffreys wrote of the US president that "he had engaged in sexual acts that even the most seasoned libertine might hesitate to request" with the young intern Monica L. Cripey, Daniel!

What Jeffreys points to, however - albeit unwittingly - is how complex sexual etiquette has become. The

revelations threatening to drive the Clinton presidency over the precipice are not so much the sex itself (all clear and no talk, apparently), as the timing of the sex. Washington is said to be reeling from the news that, according to NBC, "Monica Lewinsky had a sexual encounter with the President in his White House study, hours after Clinton attended Easter services with his family".

Hours after an Easter service? Hot dog! So Clinton should have left it how long exactly? Would one day have been sufficient? Or perhaps till the end of Easter week? And would it have been all right to have had sex with Hillary just after the Easter service? For Bill, I mean. But in fact Clinton's sin was worse even than a Christian service proximity one. This particular service was "filled with references to the death of Commerce Secretary Ron, killed in a plane crash in Croatia earlier that week".

You can see how tricky this is getting. Just how long after a Commerce Secretary is killed should a President decently wait before "making requests" of a buxom intern? A week? A month? Longer in the case of a foreign head of state? Then there is the allegation that another "sex session" took place as Yasser Arafat waited in the Rose Garden for a rendezvous with the President. It is clearly wrong to keep a guest waiting, but is it also wrong to have adulterous sex an hour before meeting an important dignitary?

It is little wonder that some of my older colleagues hark back to less complicated days. William Rees-Mogg, writing in *The Times* yesterday, made the unfashionable point that a

**DAVID AARONOVITCH**  
*How long after a colleague is killed should a President wait before 'making requests' of an intern?*

president who lies to his wife is also likely to be a murderer. Though Mr Mogg (as I like to think of him) admits there is no evidence, as such, of homicidal activity on Clinton's part, he suggests that the 21 deaths of people in some way associated with the Clintons - including eight suicides and five plane crash fatalities - are very suspicious when you consider what Bill got up to with Monica.

This is a connection that many of us make, though usually less eccentrically. Infidelity seems to be both the most interesting and the most threatening of domestic crimes, involving intricate deception and the dilution of valid passion with the nasty fluids of calculation. The modern romantic image that most of us have of relationships is of honesty, openness and commitment. The contract is for sole, vacant possession. In recent years private eyes have got quite a lot of

business from women in Britain and America who want to see whether their men can be entrapped into agreeing to have casual sex with a beautiful stranger encountered in a bar or pub. Should they fail the test, they are dropped. And they do all fail.

But the end of a relationship, say the romantics, is not the end of life. True, the thinking has gone, an affair must end the marriage. That's sad, but you then divide the spoils, settle the visitation rights, and get on with the next passionate relationship, which you hope will be the last. This pattern is called serial monogamy. And the only problem with it is that it is completely unrealistic, seriously damages children and will almost certainly result in a repetition of the behaviour that ended the first relationship.

The costs of serial monogamy are becoming better understood. And there are many worse things than infidelity in modern marriages. I know of at least one woman, once intelligent and vibrant, who - over 20 years - has been turned into a shadowy drudge by her belittling, scornful, pathologically jealous, ever-faithful husband. You can't say that about Mrs Clinton, now can you?

But just because I think that adultery is not the ultimate sin, and is usually not worth breaking up a home for (certainly not one with children in it), that is not the same as saying that it is mostly a good idea.

And we could take as our text for worrying about it no less an authority than that of Sigmund Freud, Richard Branson himself. As his wife Joan says about him, the Virgin boss has always had weaknesses for "sticky cake and beautiful women" (with Bill Clinton it

is, of course, the other way around).

In his autobiography Branson tells how he lost his first wife, Kristen, to the rock star Kevin Ayers, as the result of a wife-swapping party. Described, inevitably, in yesterday's *Adultery News*, the setting was his "romantic houseboat in London's Little Venice. Cushions were scattered on the floor. The scene was set for swapping and seduction." And, apparently, alliteration. Nevertheless, all readers of *Adultery News* now know to avoid houseboats with floor cushions.

So Richard went off with Kevin's Cyrille, leaving Kristen behind. And Kristen and Kevin subsequently fell in love, went off together and had a child, a drug problem and a divorce. Richard spent a few years trying to entice her back, and failed. What he'd taken for sanctioned, positive adultery, she'd interpreted as an indication of a lack of real feeling and sympathy. And she may well have been right; infidelity, like silence, is hard to interpret. Yet interpret it we must.

What then are we left with, we fallible people? To bend a Thatcher phrase, I think that it shows that there are no rules, only relationships. Each one is complex and messy, consisting of the chemical reaction, over time, between two separate pathologies. In that sense, all liaisons are dangerous. Each one has to be discussed on its merits.

Incongruously, you may think yesterday's *Adultery News* also carried a page - twice Bill and Dick - entitled "The Good Relationship Guide". It makes the (controversial) point that what works in one situation may not in another. We all need to judge less and understand more. Amen.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**  
"The board has noted recent press speculation and confirms that it is in discussions which may or may not lead to an offer being made for Manchester United."  
BSkyB

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**  
"Whilst we have prisons, it matters little which of us occupy the cells."  
George Bernard Shaw,  
Irish playwright

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WITH FRIENDS like these, who needs Republicans? President Clinton returns to Washington to find Democrats in a distinctly uglier mood than when he left. Ever since the respected centrist Senator Joe Lieberman gave the signal from the Senate floor with a searing moral indictment, lawmakers on the left have been preparing to jump the Clinton ship. He made it possible for Democrats to bolt if the Starr report is as bad as people expect. In this snapshot moment, it certainly looks bleak for him. Of course, given the Comeback Kid's record of escaping from tight spots at the last minute, all bets are off.

*Time Daily*

**LIEBERMAN'S DENUNCIATION** of Clinton on the floor of the Senate must not be taken as simply the first desertion of the president by a stalwart supporter in his party. Lieberman speaks for the nation. The nation too has made up its mind that it must not leave the im-

**MONITOR**  
ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD  
*American opinion on Clinton's worsening crisis*

pression that what the president did was acceptable, and that it must be followed with some measure of public rebuke and accountability.

*Boston Herald*

WE WHO are content to let others steer the ship of state needed to hear Lieberman's message as much as did Clinton. We put our trust in him, whether by choice or by the

count of the ballot, and he owes us. And, judging by the number of folks who are still bent on excusing his failings as no better than ought to be expected from a mere mortal, the values of which he is steward, our values, are in sore need of an overhaul.

*Arkansas Democrat Gazette*

APPARENTLY, THE president still doesn't understand the scale of his transgressions - that he's not just offended his family but shamed his office and em-

Facts without

still on



## PANDORA

IT SEEMS that Lionel Jospin, Prime Minister of France, will definitely not be joining the summit of world leaders, including Bill Clinton and Tony Blair, who gather to discuss "the Third Way" at New York University on 21 September. Pandora has learned of a letter the socialist Frenchman has written declining the invitation, in which he suggests that "the Third Way" is absurd. And that, if Democrat Clinton and Labourite Blair want to be, respectively, Republican and Conservative, they should just go ahead and join.

DO YOU have the guts to join the world of lifestyle journalism? Under the headline "The best job in London (that's legal)", the National Magazine Company, publishers of *Cosmopolitan*, *Esquire* and *Harpers & Queen*, are advertising for a new in-house PR flack. Pandora rang Nat Mags and asked what they considered "the best job in London", presumably illegal? "Goodness knows. That was just a gimmick to grab people's attention," said a spokesperson in the company's Human Resources department. Meanwhile, what are the job requirements? "Someone who returns calls, isn't scared of publishers, has ideas we haven't thought of and is a legend in their own lunch-time." Presumably that's serious.

WHILE SAINSBURY'S has recently announced that it will stop its sponsorship activities at this year's Labour Conference, the Conservative Party seems finally to be waking up to the joys of sponsorship. When the Tory agent in Lewes, Sussex, complained about the annual report of Lib Dem MP Norman Baker, which was sponsored by a local theme park, she was firmly slapped down by Conservative Central Office. She was told, "The sad fact is that our MPs should be doing it and it's what our former MPs should have been doing."

DAVID LELAND'S new film, *The Land Girls*, starring the admirable Anna Friel (pictured), has been given a "12" certificate because of some of the romantic scenes involving several members of the women's Home Guard. However, much of the film was shot on location in Somerset and Devon using a number of local residents, including children. Many of the kids were seen to be themselves on the big screen. As a result, the manager of Tiverton's cinema got permission for the film to carry a PG certificate locally. "There's no nudity, just a few sexy goings on," says Tim King

of West Somerset District, which co-ordinated the tourism side of the film. "The local community is doing a lot to cash in... I mean, er, make the most of the film's publicity."

RICHARD BRANSON'S unhappy reaction to losing his wife Kristen after a wife-swapping session with rock singer Kevin Ayers has been fully documented in recent days. What hasn't been explored is the satisfaction Branson obtained when Ayers himself subsequently got dumped in Majorca by Kristen for a German architect named Axel Ball. Ball is largely responsible for turning the beautiful, unspoiled artists' colony of Deia, home to the late poet Robert Graves, into an upmarket villa resort for wealthy Germans, French and Brits. When Ball took Kristen away from Ayers, Branson rewarded Ball by helping him to develop Deia's luxury Residencia Hotel: it is now a Virgin Hotel. In subsequent years, Branson asked Ball, now married to Kristen, to help him develop other new glamorous resorts, including one on the Greek island of Hydra and another in the Majorcan village of Banyalbufar. (The latter has run into trouble with Spanish planning authorities who are anxious to preserve this remaining stretch of Majorca's beautiful north coast.) Unsurprisingly, Ayers sold his Deia house and moved to France.

AFRO-AMERICAN soul singer Chaka Khan is currently revitalizing her career on tour with Prince (that is "the Artist"). However, she took time out to comment on Clinton's missile attack on Sudan. Speaking to the World Entertainment News Network, she broke down in tears and blurted, "Africans are dying because of what Bill Clinton did with his dick". The Network found Chaka's soulful political outburst less than entertaining and promptly edited it out.



## Why we English hate ourselves



TERENCE BLACKER

*'Apples? English apples?' The greengrocer reacted to my enquiry with what seemed to be genuine rage*

I NEEDED to sell some apples. Second only to the harvesting of puffballs, it can be a useful second income, sometimes running into three figures. This time last year, I sold a few boxes of Discoveries from Suffolk through a local greengrocer in Hammersmith, but the life expectancy of any Askew Road retail outlet not selling alcohol, bargain bathroom utensils or plumbing equipment is less than 12 months, and inevitably my outlet has since closed. So this year I tried Fulham.

"Apples? English apples?" The greengrocer reacted to my enquiry with what seemed to be genuine rage. He led me to an apple display at the back of the shop. "You know what I call those? I call them shit. Because that's all they're worth. I can't give them away."

"People don't like apples any more?" "I'll show you what they like." He pointed to the front of the shop and a box of larger apples, glowing with bland, shiny tastelessness. "New Zealand. Double the price. Half the flavour. Yet still they buy them. Suddenly all people want is foreign stuff. What's wrong with this country?"

Alarmed that an innocent sales pitch had prompted what might become an assault on my delicate liberal sensibilities, I was relieved when a Fulham type in her late twenties drifted in from the street. But the tirade continued, in a low, angry mutter. "They don't buy English apples, that lot," he said, nodding in the woman's direction, as she checked out the herbs. "Used

to. Not now. It's like football - all nifty little foreigners. Tony Adams?" He thrust out his chest and squared his shoulders in a parody of the solid, English-as-roast-beef central defender. "Forget it." I bought a lettuce and left.

As a general rule, philosophers of the street can safely be ignored. There's no reason why an angry Fulham greengrocer should have any deeper insight into life's eternal verities than a Fascist taxi-driver or a brainless actor on the Des O'Connor Show, but events over the past few days have made me wonder whether the Fulham Alf Garnett may not have been on to something.

Glenn Hoddle, for example, seems to have become a new national hate figure. Even before our lads got stuffed in Stockholm, he was mocked in the tabloids, who bewilderingly have taken to portraying him as a teapot. Yet it seems like only a couple of months ago that we all rather liked Glenn. He had been a great player, and seemed a decent club manager. By footballing standards, the conduct of his private and business lives seemed relatively straightforward, if a touch too ag-

gressively Christian for some. He managed to get the England team to the World Cup where, apart from a few dodgy selection decisions, his campaign was thought to be generally rather successful.

What went wrong? Why did he suddenly become loathed, in the same way that every England manager of recent years has been loathed? His support of a faith-healer as an aid to football management was slightly embarrassing, it was true. The publication of his kick-and-tell World Cup diary revealed a certain lack of dignity and judgement. But nothing quite explains the venom and contempt which he now has to endure.

Unless the greengrocer was right. Perhaps there is something self-loathing within the national psyche that, at the slightest excuse, will find expression in a contempt for all things English. Last week, the novelist John Lanchester, as he interviewed Julian Barnes, was to be found bemoaning the fact that, while English fiction is thought internationally to be in a healthy state, it is regularly held up to ridicule by the small army of critics and media

academics who influence literary opinion in this country.

In politics, it's noticeable that within the very circles where the result of last year's election was greeted as a bright, long-awaited new dawn, a bitter disenchantment with the new establishment has become evident. Every new rumour - that the V&A Museum may be pedestrianised, that the Royal Family may be made more accountable - is held up as another example of the Government's obsession with a naïf populism. It's as if already the new cynics have forgotten how far we have travelled since the days when we had a hopeless, floundering government, when Michael Howard was on the radio every morning patronising us, and when characters like Rhodes Boyson and David Evans were taken seriously.

This is dangerous ground, of course. The last great campaign of patriotism was launched by Robert Maxwell. The need to be proud of English success has recently become a rallying cry of Jeffrey Archer. Perhaps I had better eat those apples myself.

## Another day, another terrible Balkan tragedy



RUPERT CORNWELL

*What is happening in Kosovo is a tragedy. Once again, Milosevic has called our bluff.*

HISTORY, IT has famously been observed, repeats itself first as tragedy, then as farce. But the Balkans, as usual, defy convention. For what is happening in Kosovo is tragedy. At least the West has learnt the lesson of Bosnia, we said - myself included - when the Yugoslav army began its crackdown last March, and Nato quickly responded by stepping up sanctions against Belgrade and carrying out air combat exercises close to Kosovo's border with Albania.

Six months on, just as he once did in Bosnia, Slobodan Milosevic has again called the West's bluff. His practised antennae have detected that, for all Nato's chest-thumping, for all the imprecations of "Never Again", we did not have the stomach to intervene militarily. With each communiqué of the Contact Group of major powers set up to deal with the former Yugoslavia, the threats of force and the mantralic repetition that "all options are open" rang hollower. And now the top Western policymakers have forgotten.

True, a US delegation has just completed a fact-finding mission - and unearthed some truly disturbing facts. Moreover, the outlines of a plan for a ceasefire, followed by an interim political settlement, could be emerging. But Washington is paralysed as it waits for the Starr report. Germany, the European country with most at stake in the Balkans, is less than three weeks from a general election. And compared to the lurid scandal engulfing President Clinton, the turmoil on the world's financial markets, what does this tiresome, seemingly interminable squabble in a remote south-eastern corner of Europe matter? So Milosevic has seized his moment.

His current seven-week offensive in Serbia's southern province

seems to have broken the back of the Kosovo Liberation Army, which is fighting for full independence, and forced the KLA's most effective units to seek sanctuary in neighbouring countries. Over 250,000 people have been displaced, with 50,000 of them living in the open as the harsh Balkan winter approaches. And there are even more sinister similarities with Bosnia in the dark years between 1992 and summer 1995.

Just as in Bosnia, events in Kosovo "are rapidly developing into a humanitarian catastrophe," to borrow the words of Bob Dole, the former presidential candidate and an early - but long unheeded - advocate of strong action against the Bosnian Serbs. Worse still, we are told of how Serbs are separating men from among the Kosovo Albanian refugees and taking them off. From eyewitnesses, the US team has heard "chilling" accounts of atrocities. The war's official death toll of "hundreds" will surely have to be revised sharply upwards. Even the concentration camps of the Bosnian war could be on the verge of a

comeback, following the announcement by Belgrade of ten "assisted points" where refugees may settle - under the very tightest scrutiny and control, it may be assumed, of the Serbian security forces.

And remember the disastrous trip of the former Secretary of State Warren Christopher to London in May 1993, which laid bare the differences between the Western allies and gave Messrs Karadzic and Milosevic their opportunity? Today, Washington and the Europeans are bickering again. This time, the US special envoy Christopher Hill has accused the EU of ignoring Kosovo, in its obsession with creating a united Europe which excludes the Balkans. And who is to blame him? Gathered in solemn session in Salzburg at the weekend, the EU's Foreign Ministers took note of their failure to install Felipe Gonzalez as a mediator in Kosovo... and agreed to ban flights to their countries by the Yugoslav airline JAT. Ban flights? But didn't they decide precisely that back in June? Well, yes, but nothing actually happened. And even now, Britain insists on 12 months to bring it into force.

There are no easy answers. If Bosnia was Warren Christopher's "problem from hell", Kosovo comes from somewhere nearby. Undoubtedly the KLA has committed atrocities of its own. It has no clearcut leadership: its earlier successes undermined Ibrahim Rugova, the political leader of the Kosovo Albanians who remains the best bet for a negotiated compromise. And Kosovo, province of Serbia, differs from Bosnia, which was an independent state when the Bosnian Serbs set about destroying it. Clearly Western intervention against the wishes of an independent country's government raises more delicate questions of international law.



Kosovo families forced to leave their homes by civil war

But the basics have not changed. 90 per cent of Kosovo's population is Albanian, whose previous limited political autonomy was removed by President Milosevic as he succumbed to the rabid Serb nationalism that detonated the entire Balkan conflict. The blame for the Kosovo crisis lies with him, and he should be stopped. Fear of igniting a wider conflagration in the south Balkans was one reason why Nato was so chary of air strikes earlier this year. Now, however, the flux of KLA fighters and Kosovan refugees into neighbouring Albania and Macedonia only makes that danger greater.

It would be nice to think that the suppression of the guerrillas is seen by President Milosevic as a unpleasant but necessary prelude to a political settlement with the moderates, and the return of a generous measure of autonomy to the province. Such is the plan elaborated by Mr Hill, which stops short of independence but which allows the agreement to be re-opened after three years. But we trust the Yugoslav leader at our peril. He is

a master at stalling. Kosovo is merely proving anew what Bosnia long since proved - that the only language Mr Milosevic understands is the imminent or actual use of force.

We have the luxury of persuading ourselves that Kosovo is Milosevic's last stand. Croatia and Slovenia have gone, Bosnia has gone, the former Macedonia has gone; Montenegro is going. Only Serbia - a war-drained and war-weary pariah Serbia - is left. Kosovo, where the Balkan war began, will mark his demise. But the Kosovo Albanians, as the first snows of winter settle on the hillsides, soon will have no such comfort.

Barfing retreat by Mr Milosevic. Nato will have to intervene to prevent the humanitarian catastrophe of which Mr Dole warned. At the very least a demilitarisation of Kosovo is required. And words alone will no longer do. "One thing I'm sure of," the German Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel opined at the weekend, "Milosevic is not going to win this confrontation." To which one sadly re-acts: Oh, no?

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## Science at the heart of government



PODIUM

COLIN BLAKEMORE  
From a speech by the outgoing president of the British Association for Science at the Science Festival, Cardiff

YOU CAN surely judge the significance that government attaches to any particular area of policy by the way in which it is represented in the governmental process. The scientific community welcomes the appointment, a few weeks ago, of Lord Sainsbury as Minister of Science alone, which is another clear signal of the importance the Labour Government attaches to science. However, one action above all others would confirm this government's commitment to science. I urge Tony Blair to establish an independent Ministry or Department of Science, with a seat in Cabinet for its Minister.

Liberated from the DTI, and with broader powers, the new Ministry could establish a more coherent management structure, extend consultative and advisory links to all the other arms of government, and co-ordinate the whole of science policy. An independent Ministry of Science would also be better placed, and have more authority, to orchestrate the response of different departments to unexpected and urgent scientific problems. The

chaotic response to the BSE crisis provides a bitter example of the present inadequacies of co-ordination of science policy.

More than £4bn has already been committed to cattle slaughter and compensation - public money down the drain. No event in modern times has more clearly demanded a rapid, well-planned and integrated response, but singularly failed to receive it. A Department of Science with a co-ordinating role might - just might - have prevented the worst of this tragedy.

An independent Ministry of Science should be given the resources and the links with other departments to help develop long-term strategies in areas for which science is relevant, including in the European and international arenas. I can suggest one urgent topic for such strategic analysis. It is the demographic time-bomb of the world's ageing population, which is, in my opinion, still not being taken sufficiently seriously. By the middle of the next century, more than one in 10 of the population of Britain will be over 75. Our children's children will

expect to live to 100. We must, as a nation, plan now for a massive unbalancing of society, in which fewer and fewer young adults are supporting more and more of the retired. This remarkable demographic trend is testimony to the success of modern medicine in keeping most of the body going. We may imagine that, as people become more confident of a long and healthy life, many will want to retire later.

But the quality of life, as well as the ability of the elderly to continue to work effectively and to contribute in other ways to society, is so often compromised by diseases and disorders of the ageing brain and nervous system - the one organ system in the body that cannot significantly replace or repair itself. Any strategic plan for the problem of the ageing population must give the highest priority to research on the human brain, including the devastating diseases that can transform the Third Age into mindless misery: stroke, motor neuron disease, CJD, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease.

One of the most important functions of a new Ministry of Science would be to help to shape the future of science education. The one comparison on which Britain falls down miserably is in the proportion of science graduates who secure employment as science professionals. While the fraction of the labour force employed in science and engineering R&D has risen steadily since the Seventies in Germany, Japan, France and the US, in the UK it has fallen.

The reasons are fairly obvious. Scientists and engineers are underpaid, compared with other professionals, far below the average for accountants and managers. And there are just not enough jobs for scientists. Why not much better tax incentives for R&D; compulsory detailed reporting of R&D expenditure in annual reports; new schemes to encourage companies to sponsor undergraduates and employ them for periods between modular courses?

Ten years ago the British public didn't know much about science and didn't care. Now, they know a little more but care a great deal. I think that the public concerns about genetically modified organisms, about food safety, about cloning, and even about the use of animals in research, are a healthy sign of public engagement in national affairs, so much lacking in other areas of British life. It is the task of the scientific community to answer the public's concerns, and to respect that the people are the ultimate arbiters of how science can best serve this country in the 21st century.

July 20 1998



# Penalty of a dodgy relationship



STEVE RICHARDS

*Murdoch, once a prized asset, has become something of a liability for Mr Blair*

LIKE ALL the best football matches, the relationship between Tony Blair and Rupert Murdoch falls neatly into two halves. Up until the general election, half-time let's say, their relationship was going swimmingly. The Sun warmly endorsed Tony Blair, and Labour duly swept into power. Since then, though, both men have singularly failed to realise that new rules now apply. And with Murdoch's bid to buy Manchester United, the game could well be up.

Let us deal first with the opening half, which was controversial enough. Blair and Alastair Campbell were absolutely right to woo Murdoch in advance of the election, and The Sun's endorsement was one of the triumphs of the pre-election strategy. Those masochistic Labour supporters who resented the careful wooing, or regarded The Sun's support as irrelevant, have short memories of the tabloid's capacity to relentlessly undermine Labour leaders. If anyone has doubts about The Sun's powers, ask Michael Foot or Neil Kinnock. It is not just the impact of an election campaign, but the daily assault, year after year, which has been so fatally damaging to Blair's predecessors.

Blair's trip to Australia in July 1995, which is always raised whenever Murdoch is in the news, has assumed mythical proportions. It may not be as grand an honour as being the first journalist to set foot on Port Stanley, but I was the only British journalist to do so on that trip with the Blair entourage. It is time to demythologise the event.

No formal deal was done with Murdoch during the brief News International conference, in which both Blair and Murdoch made mutually appreciative speeches. I have no doubt that, informally, Murdoch was reassuringly told that Labour's policies for the media would not undermine his empire, but Blair did not have to go half-way round the world to make that point. He had already publicly stated the position in several interviews.

The aim of Blair and Campbell on that exhausting, but worthwhile, journey was to neutralise The Sun in the years leading up to the election. To get its endorsement was a bonus that neither expected as



Sky's bid to take over Manchester United presents Tony Blair with a dilemma

they flew back after the gathering. Remember also that Murdoch's embrace was strictly limited. The Sunday Times advised its readers to vote Conservative last year, and still seems to be pursuing a right-wing agenda. The Times recommended its readership to vote for Eurosceptic candidates of any party, which was hardly an endorsement of New Labour.

None the less, The Sun poured praise on to Blair, and saved its vitriol for his opponents. So, up until May 1997, the relationship with Murdoch worked. Ever since, it has been a political liability for Blair. He should have kept his distance once power had been safely secured.

Consider the editorial line of the Murdoch newspapers. If anything, their opposition to the single currency has reached greater intensity in recent months. Under a new editor, The Sun even dared to ask whether Blair had become the most dangerous man in Britain. The Times is equally passionate, if a little less strident.

The hope that Murdoch can be won round to EMU, in the same way that he was courted to become a New Labourite, is a misguided calculation in the Government's strategy. It is a forlorn hope based on the

success of the pre-election first half of the relationship. Blair will almost certainly have to fight a referendum on EMU without the support of The Sun, but the chance that the tabloid can be swayed may dangerously delay the timing of such a campaign. The first-half triumph has had a related but wider consequence. It has led Blair to assume that, on all kinds of policy fronts, The Sun cannot be alienated, although he possesses a much mightier weapon than a fickle newspaper: a three-figure majority.

More immediately, his relationship with Murdoch arouses under-estimated resentment among senior ministers. The likes of Gordon Brown and Robin Cook understood and admired the pre-election wooing of Murdoch. They are losing patience now. Their allies point out that The Sun's editorials, let alone those of The Times and The Sunday Times, regularly attack the Government.

In their view, The Sun's line is a personal one: it is pro-Blair, but not a supporter of the Government as a whole. In the short term, expect some coded, or not so coded, attacks on Murdoch from some ministers at the party conference (an easy way, as they know, to bring the house

down). In the longer term, several members of the Cabinet will not be minded to help Murdoch in his bid to become the owner of Manchester United. Nor will the Parliamentary Labour Party. There is a whole swathe of Labour MPs, of whom Chris Mullin, the chairman of the Home Affairs Committee, is a prominent example, who believe that Blair was absolutely right to woo Murdoch before the election, but should have kept his distance once safely in power.

Instead, the continuing association has landed even the normally sure-footed Alastair Campbell in trouble. Did he lie when he briefed journalists about Blair's phone calls with the Italian Prime Minister in which Murdoch's interests were raised? Not precisely, but Campbell knew that his boss's relationship with Murdoch was so politically sensitive that journalists had to be diverted from the trail. He ended up being summoned to a backbench committee to explain his evasive behaviour. Campbell walked all over the committee, but that is not the point - the Blair/Murdoch relationship was a story.

This is the context in which Murdoch makes his bid for Manchester United. It could provide an un-

expected twist. Consider this question: What if the bid had been masterminded by someone other than Murdoch waving a cool half-billion pounds?

My guess is that Blair's instincts would have supported such a takeover, if that was the wish of the shareholders, recognising that the sport had already become commercialised in Britain and around the world. I doubt if he would have agreed with the sentimental notion that the current era, under the chairmanship of Martin Edwards, created a friendly community club that had suddenly become threatened by a media mogul. He is a supporter of the market economy, and of Newcastle United plc.

But it is not AN Other who wants to buy Manchester United. It is Murdoch, and this may make it more difficult for Blair to follow his instincts. Privately Blair was supportive of Murdoch's decision not to publish Chris Patten's book on Hong Kong and China on commercial grounds. Why let one part of your business disrupt another? But publicly he could not express such a view because of suspicions that he held it only to keep in with Murdoch.)

Imagine what the reaction will be if the football deal goes ahead:

Murdoch clicks his fingers and Blair does the business. The issue is made more complicated when the "people" evidently do not approve of the owner of the "people's newspaper". Furthermore, the juxtaposition of the entrepreneur Murdoch and grieving football fans places Blair's twin themes about the importance of modernity and a sense of community into apparent conflict.

In other words, Murdoch, once a prized asset, has become something of a liability for Blair. And that means he will tread especially carefully in Murdoch's bid for Manchester United; more carefully than if it was anybody else. Which means, of course, that the relationship is becoming counterproductive for Murdoch as well. In an exquisite irony, the relationship is becoming for Blair rather like the one he has with trade unions. He has to show he is being especially tough in order to convince the wider world he is not in Murdoch's pocket. Perhaps Murdoch and the union leaders should all get together for a drink, and comfort each other.

There is a good up-market bar owned by Manchester United plc.

Steve Richards is the Political Editor of New Statesman

## RIGHT OF REPLY

DON FOSTER



The Liberal Democrats' spokesman on education responds to our leading article

THE INDEPENDENT'S applause for Paddy Ashdown's "advocacy of our rights as citizens rather than subjects" is welcome. But it is very difficult to square it with your reaction to our Policy Review Commission's conclusions on school structures.

The need for change is clear. With one in nine pupils leaving school with no formal qualification, the education service is failing the nation. There's confusion about who is responsible for what. Most school governors, for example, cannot say for what, to whom and by what means they are accountable. And despite good intentions over many years, we've failed to make our schools a true community resource.

Part of our policy proposals to resolve such problems leaves strategic aspects of education policy, including admissions and entitlements, in the hands of elected Local Education Authorities (LEAs) operating within a framework laid down by parliament. However, it also proposes that local groups should be able to run individual schools or clusters of schools under contract with their LEAs. Groups who wish to form what would be called a Neighbourhood Schools Trust would be expected to demonstrate their ability to deliver the contract and involve the community they are to serve.

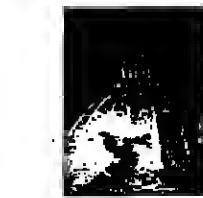
To describe this policy as a "well meaning [attempt] at local democracy" may be condescending but it is broadly accurate. To argue that it amounts to no more than a "charter for social misfits and busybodies" is bizarre.

As Gladstone said, "Liberalism is the trust of the people tempered by prudence." To criticise our proposals on education while urging "genuine Liberalism" upon us is to hit both the brake and the accelerator at the same time.

# The pundits and the pontiff

PAPAL ELECTIONS are notoriously difficult to predict. The present incumbent, John Paul II, was not mentioned on any pundit's betting slip before he emerged in a puff of white smoke from the Sistine Chapel in 1978 as the first non-Italian to preside at God's business address on earth in 455 years, the first ever Slav to sit on St Peter's throne and the youngest holder of the office in 130 years.

One long-time observer of the Catholic Church could, however, claim with some justification to have seen him coming. Morris West had published in 1963 in *The Shoes Of The Fisherman*, the story of the emergence of an eastern European Pope to turn the world's biggest



## TUESDAY BOOK

EMINENCE  
BY MORRIS WEST, HARVILL, £15.99

multinational on its head. The novel was, it was later revealed, on Karol Wojtyla's bookshelves in Krakow before he left for the historic conclave of 120 or so cardinals who have the task of electing the Bishop of Rome.

Twenty years on John Paul is clearly ailing, suffering, it is said, from Parkinson's Disease, immobile, unsmiling and disappointed that the revolution behind the Iron Curtain, which he did so much to foment in Poland, has failed to bring about the spiritual reawakening of Europe which he anticipated. And speculation is rife about who will succeed him and what that will mean for an embattled and divided Catholic Church.

So Morris West had judged the moment right to return to his crystal ball. *Eminence* is a powerfully written and persuasive critique of much of what is amiss in the contemporary Catholic Church. It is strong on plot, perceptive about the trials and tribulations of holding one's faith in an intrusively secular world, and peopled by characters who will be easily recognisable to any observer of current Vatican machinations. And it contains a prediction.

Its best attribute, however, is pure fiction. Cardinal Lura Rossini, an Italo-Argentinian prelate who was tortured by the military during his country's "dirty war". His freely-acknowledged weaknesses and flawed humanity make him both a mesmerising character and one who lives the yawning gap between the ideals of his church and realities of Catholics' lives.

Though it is Rossini who holds the key to the papal election, the eventual victor is the Jesuit Archbishop of Milan. West is not quite so blatant as to give any one of the princes of the church who figure in his fictional conclave their actual name, but his tip is clear and, compared to his hunch last time, uncontroversial. Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini of Milan will be the next Pope. The twist in the book is how this liberally-minded in-

tellectual persuades the more traditionalist amongst his colleagues, currently busily denigrating him in private, to vote for him.

*The Shoes Of The Fisherman* was published three decades ago when West was at the height of his popularity. It was later made into a film with Anthony Quinn. West had another bite at this particular cherry in 1990 with *Lazarus*, the tale of a hard-line traditionalist pope, with overtones of John Paul II, who recovers from a near-death experience a changed man and sets about a reformist agenda for restoring the church to its former esteem in the hearts of the faithful.

In terms of the author's worrying analysis of the state of Catholicism, *Eminence* adds little to *Lazarus*. Yet it is a message that bears repeating. West's feeling for the human cost of outmoded policies remains acute and contemporary as, for instance, when Rossini describes his hardest moment as a priest as holding a baby over the baptismal font and knowing that he will never be able to do that for his own flesh and blood.

Yet, with West now in his eighties, there are occasional hints that he may be stuck in an earlier age. The activities and style of the many journalists who play pivotal roles in the unravelling of the narrative is the least convincing aspect of *Eminence*. Their intensely personal but oddly stilted reports belong to *The Daily Telegraph* of the 1960s and bear little resemblance to anything that would appear in newspapers today.

It is, though, a minor complaint. Morris West remains the doyen of the many writers who have tried through journalism and fiction to double-guess and influence the conclave of cardinals, one of the most secretive but influential group of electors in the world. In the realm of fiction, Baron Corvo in *Hadrian VII* and ex-priest Peter de Rosa in *Pope Patrick* pale into insignificance alongside West, sacrificing authenticity for cheap humour.



West's novel *The Shoes of the Fisherman* anticipated the election of the present Pope

What is remarkable is the apparently undiminished appeal for writers of the papal election. The church is in steep decline in the West in terms of numbers, vocations and influence. Yet we are fascinated with this medieval process to elect a Pope whom most of us will then ignore.

Perhaps it is the power, or the secrecy of that heady mix of religion and politics. Perhaps too it is a result of the exclusion, in our democratic era, of the 1 billion Catholics around the globe from any vote for their leader. At least through books they can have their say and feel a part of the process. And perhaps too it is a tribute to the extraordinary charisma and impact of John Paul II himself. Though aged and unwell, he continues to make news and therefore give the issue of his successor a broader resonance in an otherwise secular age.

The author's *The She-Pope* is published by Heinemann.

PETER STANFORD

## TUESDAY POEM

ON NOT BEING  
A NATURE POET  
BY CAROLE SATYAMURTI

Picking up a small, white feather  
I note its symmetry, each tiny rib  
knowing its proper measure.

I hold it in my palm, and speculate  
how many I would have to balance there  
before I'd feel the weight.

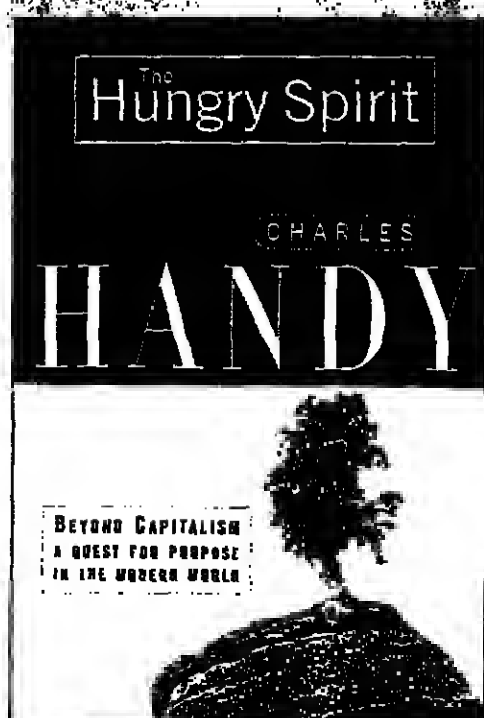
I see its consummate design, spare  
curve like a careful hand, repelling water,  
nurturing warm air.

Stroking along its spine, I like to sense  
the finger-numbing softness near the root  
change to resilience.

But it doesn't move me; I can't say  
I love it. As I've written this, the wind  
has carried it away.

This is our final selection from Carole  
Satyamurti's new *Selected Poems*  
(Oxford, £9.99)

The international best-selling author  
of *The Empty Raincoat* argues for a  
dramatic change in our personal and  
business values in his latest book



"Charles Handy is Britain's  
only world-class  
management guru"  
Director

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# Michael Nightingale of Cromarty

MICHAEL NIGHTINGALE was not a man to melt into any crowd: his tall, angular figure with flowing beard and hand-me-down suits made him stand out in the merchant banks and boardrooms where he spent much of his career. He appeared more at home feeding hay to his Sussex cows early on a winter's morning, or clambering around church roofs, or leading objectors at public inquiries. Indeed his true bent was as an antiquary and conservationist, but he added financial and negotiating skills to a mastery of legal and historical minutiae which made him a formidable protagonist in the countless campaigns he led to preserve the landscape, woodlands and churches of the North Downs in Kent, where he lived for most of his life. His impact on the landscape and on attitudes to conservation will be his most lasting memorial.

His unfashionable views and unconventional approach to problems were no doubt inspired by his father, Victor Nightingale, a City stockbroker, and Bathsheba Bubby (whose family had fled Lithuania in 1888). His mother's death and father's prompt remarriage impelled the 16-year-old Michael to set up a separate establishment in a cottage up the village street from the family home at Wormshill – his precocity, independence and intransigence were already well-established traits.

Michael was educated at Winchester, where he organised archaeological digs, and went on to Wye College to study agriculture, following a course that was more antiquarian than agrarian, and then on to Magdalen College, Oxford.

In 1951 he organised an exhibition of "Treasures from Kent Churches" at Canterbury, but his father, concerned that he should be able to make a more profitable living, arranged a job for him as assistant to the investment manager of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Although he spent much of his two years in this post completing his thesis on Roman field systems, the position set him on a course spanning different careers which seem a world apart in an age of ever greater specialisation.

An appointment in his mid twenties as an assistant and speech writer to the Principal of London University was precipitately ended at one o'clock in the morning because he wrote a speech which advocated that the university should cease to redevelop the squares of Bloomsbury and treat them in the manner of Oxford quads. But his sacking did not stop him from continuing to carry the Chancellor's mace as the university's Esquire Bedell for over

40 years (even though he had only acquired the office because he fitted into the silken breeches that went with it) or becoming, in 1954, the university's first ever investment manager (he had discovered its considerable assets were merely held on deposit).

He was appointed in the same year Secretary of the Museums Association and editor of the *Museums Journal*, in which he was assisted by Hilary Jones whom he married in 1956. As Secretary he pioneered the Regional Museum Service to give expert advice and assistance to small regional museums and persuaded the Treasury to grant-aid the Walker Art Gallery's purchase of Rubens's *Holy Family*, thus opening a new era in which government money could be sought by provincial museums.

Appointed OBE for his services to museums in 1960 at the age of 32, he might have had a promising career in the museum world but, but with three small children to support, he turned his attention back to the City, joining friends to form a merchant bank, J.E. Thomasson & Co, which quickly prospered after merging with Charterhouse Japhet in 1965.

*He was never happy on a committee unless he was chairman. If there was not an organisation designed to achieve his purposes he would form one*

Being a director of a large bank was not to his liking and after a few years he saw the opportunity of rescuing a former Dutch East Indies plantations company following the nationalisation of its estates. Cutting as striking a figure in Jakarta or on a Javanese tea estate as he did in the City, he relished the protracted negotiations for compensation and the company's role, following a merger, as the principal maker of hand tools (the Chillingham Crocodile brand) throughout much of the Third World. But as always his interests extended beyond the purely commercial – great efforts would be expended on the building of a new

mosque on one of the estates, or on the transporting of an organ through the jungle to a Lutheran church. And although he continued as chairman of several companies and a board member of the Commonwealth Development Corporation through the 1980s his energies were always widely spread among his other interests.

In the early 1960s he had bought Cromarty House, Ross & Cromarty, attracted there by his wife's family connections with the historically and architecturally important town of Cromarty. His purchase of the fine 18th-century house, which became a much-loved family home, saved it from destruction. In the 1980s, in an effort to regenerate the economy and fabric of the town, he enjoyed public and charitable bodies to add to his own contribution of money and buildings to create an outpost for Robert Gordon's Institute of Technology (later Robert Gordon University) and Aberdeen University.

A lover of tradition and pomp (but never pompous), he strove to impart to others the importance of historical continuity, whether in the liturgy (as a lay member of the General Synod), libraries, landscapes or heraldry. But this sense of tradition did not make him content with orthodoxies. He used conventional methods of influence but was never happy on a committee unless he was chairman. If there was not an organisation designed to achieve his purposes he would form one. Within months of joining a new body (and the list was intimidatingly large) he would be advocating that it should be doing more, and differently.

Inevitably this upset many but it often paid dividends. Joining the Rochester Bridge Trust in 1965, a 14th-century charity with a considerable annual income and a principal object of building bridges across the Medway, he pushed for it to take a large role in supporting higher education in Kent; inspired by the Cromarty experience, he conceived in 1983 the idea that the trust should do something similar in the Medway Towns – the largest conurbation without a university. The result was the Bridge Wardens' College, appropriately established in the wonderful setting of the Royal Dockyard buildings at Chatham.

As a Warden of the trust, he also played a leading role in the complex negotiations to finance and build the new tunnel under the River Medway, but of equal importance in his scale of values was his organising what was probably the first service in the Bridge Chapel since the Reformation and ensuring that the resulting Latin Requiem Mass on All Souls Day should become an integral part of the trust's annual calendar.



Nightingale will be more generally remembered for his role as a conservationist; his sphere of action was resolutely local but the effects often had much wider repercussions. With no interest in politics he nevertheless persevered as a local councillor from 1961 until his death (including spells as leader and mayor) in order to use his position on successive planning committees to fight against the destruction of houses and medieval barns (especially in the 1960s when demolition was the rage of the day) and for tighter planning laws in the countryside, particularly the preservation of coppice woodland and hedgerows.

He was the bugbear of hedge grubbers and tree fellers not least because his council was the first to have a farmer imprisoned for breaking Tree Preservation Orders.

Although he often preferred to be a fixer behind the scenes, his absolute faith in the rightness of his cause frequently led him to break committee ranks. When causes appeared lost to others he had an unerring ability to find a further line of appeal or legal remedy.

His involvement in the restoration of churches and church monuments was the greatest pleasure of his life. As a longstanding member of the Diocesan Advisory Committee and

Chairman of the Churches Committee of the Kent Archaeological Society (which he sometimes treated as his personal fiefdom) he had a knowledge and often close involvement with most of the medieval churches in Kent. This often involved far more than advice and financial support. In order to restore the little church of Bicknor on the North Downs, he persuaded a local stonemason to help him reopen a disused chalk quarry and they spent weeks together hand-sawing chalk blocks in his barn. He had an empathy with craftsmen, often persuading them to work for little or nothing but in turn helping them in their careers.

(the stonemason at Bicknor went on to lead major restoration programmes as head stonemason at St Paul's Cathedral and then Clerk of Works at Magdalen College).

Typically, his passionate commitment to the fabric of churches and his belief that they should remain as functioning churches regardless of dwindling congregations or clergy (whom one sensed he considered as somewhat superfluous) made him the bane of church authorities. Whenever Kent churches were threatened with closure or the sale of their treasures in the name of rationalisation, he would be found giving advice on how to frustrate it; few could equal his knowledge of the mechanics of appeals to the Privy Council or the Court of Arches. Gradually, over the years, his views which had been those of a lonely protester began to be caught up with by mainstream conservationist orthodoxy.

At the very end of his life, his house full of towering piles of papers recording the countless battles fought by petition and correspondence (whole files could be devoted to a constituent's boundary dispute or driving offence), he was still bullying friends and charities to raise a substantial sum for another unfashionable cause, the conservation of the important medieval archives of Winchester College.

In 1997, already seriously ill, he had successfully raised Lottery and other funds to save the Brook Museum, when he found that Wye College was proposing to sell this important medieval barn and east, housing a collection of early agricultural machinery and implements. It was Michael Nightingale himself who had, more than 50 years earlier, saved the collection from destruction and found it its current home.

Such continuity was typical as a 16-year-old he had opened a savings account with 10 shillings for the restoration of Wormshill's bells. Fifty years later he completed the full peal of six bells, one original, five rescued from abandoned churches. They will ring for him on Friday.

EDMUND GATTON

Michael David Nightingale, banker, conservationist and antiquary; born London 6 December 1927; Esquire Bedell, London University 1953-54; Secretary, Museums Association 1954-60; FSA 1956; OBE 1960; chairman, Anglo-Indonesian/Chillingham Corporation 1971-89; chairman, Anglo-Eastern Plantations 1985-90; married 1951 Antonia Morland (marriage dissolved 1956); 1956 Hilary Jones (two sons, three daughters); died Wormshill, Kent 2 September 1998.

## Harry Lunn

HARRY LUNN was an extraordinary dealer in extraordinary photographs. He, more than anyone, created the modern market in fine photography.

In 1971, when Lunn began selling photographs, a print of the famous *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico* by Ansel Adams fetched \$150. At the spring auctions in New York this year a 16x20 inch print sold for \$20,700. However, Lunn did more than secure a price rise for *Moonrise*. Of course, he sold great things to major museums in Paris, New York and London – the Canon Photography Gallery at the V&A exhibits some of the great photographs that passed through his hands. He acted as consultant to top corporate collections like the Gilman Paper Company, and was close to legends such as Robert Mapplethorpe and the collector Sam Wagstaff.

He supported the smaller galleries and scarcely known individuals too, and he spread the taste for collecting photographs far beyond the walls of the wealthy. More than that, Harry Lunn, with his finely domed head, Lincoln beard, booming voice, genuine bonhomie and great relish for life, personified the international photographic community that grew up around him. He

networked long before the word was invented, but he patiently cultivated friendships and loyalties as well as the market. He was a great salesman with a great eye, but also a great friend.

Lunn was born in Detroit, majored in Economics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, edited the student newspaper and was recruited in the Cold War years by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). This explained the dash of Henry Lüne about him. He said he loved the life of the spy. He worked with the international wing of the National Students Association until an article in *Rompage* magazine in 1967 exposed it as a CIA front.

He could have taken a CIA deskjob but as he later told his friend Bill Turnage, he missed espionage, with its backstabbing, treachery and betrayal. Lunn joked that he moved into the civilian sphere which he thought most resembled his former profession, setting up as an art dealer in 1968. He dealt in prints and drawings in Washington DC, but a decisive moment occurred when he happened to see Ansel Adams' *Moonrise* – upside down, apparently – at the Manhattan office of a publisher of portfolios of etchings and photographs.

Lunn held his first Adams show in 1971, and was instrumental in raising America's great landscape photographer to a new level of both financial security and reputation. He treated Adams with respect and panache – the limousine from the airport, the suite at the good hotel. Lunn could be aggressive and controversial but Adams described him, perceptively, as "a lion". The Washington photographer Allan Janus recalls:

In person Harry could be irascible, courtly, funny as hell, and terrifying as all got out. "Harry stories" circulated widely in the days when he had a gallery here in DC. Seeing a photograph that he despised walk into the gallery on 7th Street, Harry stopped him dead in his tracks by pointing at him from his god-balcony and shouting: "I know WHO you are and WHAT your art GET OUT!" And telling an acquaintance of mine, by way of compliment: "Steve, I could do a lot with your work – if you were dead..." But I also remember a long, leisurely lunch in the backyard of his old P Street Gallery, where he held forth in high humour, telling amazing stories. And, of course, going through the boxes and bins of his treasures was an education for a generation of Washington photographers and collectors – he would glower at us, and wonder when we were going to buy something, but the boxes kept coming.

Lunn's inventory was extraordinarily extensive – his holdings by

Adams, Walker Evans, Robert Frank, Berenice Abbott, Diane Arbus and others ran into thousands. Early French, turn-of-the-century photo secession, classic modern, William Eggleston's colour, Lunn had them in depth, plus precious one-offs – say a rare portrait of Toulouse-Lautrec – and scandalous contemporaries like Robert Mapplethorpe and Andres Serrano. He liked shocking, he liked keeping up, but most of all he liked quality. He taught people not only how to recognise it and pay for it, but how to cherish it – and to honour its makers.

After 1983 he dealt privately in New York and Paris, where he lived with his wife and family on the Quai Voltaire, the Seine and the Louvre framed by the apartment's tall windows. He taught generations to drink the most dry of Martinis – the recipe was always the same ("up" with Tanqueray and a twist) – and he entertained en prince.

Lunn was a prime mover in taking photography into the art fairs of Basle and Bologna, in setting up the Association of International Photographic Art Dealers (AIPAD) in 1978, in commissioning scholarly catalogues and the first photographic catalogue raisonné – of great photographers.

Philippe Garner of Sotheby's doubts whether Lunn missed any of his sales between 1972 and this Spring. On one occasion, a bidder wavering over an important Julia Margaret Cameron album found himself admonished: "Have courage!" as Lunn virtually yanked the hesitant arm upwards for the bid which beat the reserve. I always sat next to him in the front row at the London auctions, hearing from his commentary what was really happening in the saleroom, and enjoying the ferociously filthy looks he threw at competitive bidders. A few months ago Lunn led the applause when a new world record price for a *carte de visite* photograph was set at Christie's in South Kensington. Fellow dealer Frish Brandt remarked that Harry was the one who always knew how to honour the moment. Although close friends knew that he always had a beast on his back, Harry Lunn was like a cheery blaze in the hearth – which has suddenly, unaccountably, been extinguished.

MARK HAWORTH-BOOTH

Harry Hyatt Lunn Jr, photographic art dealer; born Detroit 29 April 1933; married 1963 Myriam Dosseur (one son, two daughters); died Paris 21 August 1998.



## Tommy Smith



TOMMY SMITH was one of the Australian racing industry's best known figures.

From humble origins, he reached the pinnacle of his profession as a trainer, astounding people along the way with a celebrated eye for a horse. While some of the champions he trained from his Sydney base would have won nothing on looks alone, they took Smith into the record books and into racing history.

Any sportsman who compares themselves to the legendary cricketer Sir Don Bradman – "I've known some great trainers and I've beaten them all", Smith said. "I happen to be like Don Bradman, a bit better than

the rest" – would usually be laughed out of their profession. But Smith produced the statistics to go, at least, some way towards backing up his claim. Securing 33 successive trainers' championships in Sydney from 1962/63 to 1984/85 is such proof. So is the number-crunching fact that he trained more than 7,000 winners during his extensive career; 279 of them at Group 1 level. Anyone who can train that many winners of races at the highest level compares favourably to the best ever racehorse trainers.

Smith's big wins included two in Australia's greatest race, the Melbourne Cup, with Topora in 1965 and

Just A Dash in 1981. In between he came close to landing a third Melbourne Cup when his outstanding horse Kingston Town was beaten in a photo-finish by Gurner's Lane in 1982.

Aside from the Melbourne Cup, Smith won every major race in the Australia calendar, including four Caulfield Cups, nine AJC Derbys, five Victoria Derbys, seven WS Cox Plates, three Australian Derbys, sixteen AJC Metropolitans, nine Rosehill Guineas, and five Golden Slippers.

Not bad for one of five children who grew up in New South Wales during the harsh times of the Great Depression. Smith himself left

school at 13, jumping out of a classroom window, never to return, when he decided he could not tolerate even one more clip around the ear from schoolteachers. Soon after he attempted a career as a jockey, which proved to be as unmemorable as his training achievements are astonishing. The only legacies of his time as a jockey were a solitary winner and a limp that never left him after a schooling accident.

Then came the switch to training which began with just one horse, Bragger, who took nearly two years to make it to the racetrack, so wild was his character, but who somehow managed to win 13 times for Smith.

The first quality horse he trained was the 1949 AJC Derby winner Playboy, followed by one of his real champions, Tulloch, a moderate-looking, cheaply bought animal who turned out to be an outstanding racehorse, despite being sidelined for nearly two years with a serious illness. Tulloch even managed to beat the track record of Randwick of the renowned Phar Lap, regarded as Australia's greatest racehorse, perhaps even an equine Don Bradman. Kingston Town also failed to win many admirers on looks when sold as a yearling, but he was also an outstanding success for Smith. He became the first Australian horse to win

over Aus\$1,000,000 in prize money. Smith became a man of considerable wealth through his racehorse training empire, achieving his ambition of owning a Rolls Royce. But his empire nearly collapsed after a stock exchange flotation in 1989, and was only rescued when his daughter Gai, also a successful trainer, persuaded the American billionaire John Kluge to back her father.

RICHARD GRIFFITHS

Thomas James Smith, racehorse trainer; born Goolgowi, New South Wales 3 September 1918; married (one daughter); died Sydney 2 September 1998.

July 20 1998



# Lal Waterson

THE LUDICROUSNESS of the division between traditional singing and contemporary singing and song-writing that has bedevilled the English folksong revival over the past 50 years was never better demonstrated than in the career of Lal Waterson. As Martin Carthy, her brother-in-law, puts it:

It was impossible to separate her singing from her song-writing. She used all the techniques of traditional song-making in her own lyrics and she never sounded like a revival singer. All the rest of us did. She was tremendously inventive, and as different from her brother Mike and her sister Norma as it was possible to be. She and they were and are the very best to be heard today.

Coming from the acknowledged doyen of the English folk music revival, that is high praise indeed, and while his marriage to Lal's sister might be thought to colour his judgement, there are few of his peers who would dispute it.

I first met Lal, Mike, Norma and their second cousin John Harrison, when I was composing a benefit concert in St Albans in the early Sixties. They had not yet shaken off their roots in the skiffle movement, and accompanied their songs with a guitar, yet there was an integrity and an authenticity that distinguished them from many of their better-known colleagues in the second wave of the revival (the first wave being that led by Ewan MacColl and A.L. Lloyd).

The folk producer Bill Leader had picked up what he billed as "The Waterson Family" for a "New Voices" sampler he was putting together for Topic Records, and in the liner notes for that album Lloyd himself wrote:

They have a wide repertoire but their abiding interest is in the songs and customs of their native East Yorkshire. They make their own harmonies to the songs and in all the world of the folk song revival there's nothing quite like the "Waterson sound".

Actually, Lloyd was only the first of many to make the mistake of describing the intertwining melodies of their a cappella singing as "harmonies": their style was strictly polyphonic, and the lines they sang had the same relationship to the root chords of the tunes as the three-part voicing of a New Orleans jazz front-line. And like many jazz virtuosos, their ensembles were the combination of four very individual solo voices.

Elaine "Lal" Waterson was born into a Hull family partly of Irish gypsy descent in 1943. She, her brother and sister were orphaned early in life and brought up by their grandmother. They started singing around Hull as the Mariners in late Fifties, and later as the Folkies, along with John Harrison, until they reverted to their family name and started up what became one of

Britain's leading folk clubs, Folk Union One, at the largest venue they could find in the city, the old Bluebell pub.

They were never keen on the touring that soon became necessary. Lal less so than the rest. As Carthy recalls: "She was a very private person. She didn't enjoy singing on stage, or in any public event, for that matter." When in 1966 Norma went abroad to work in a tropical radio station in the unlikely role as a late-night DJ, and Harrison moved to London, they stopped performing for a while. Six years later they returned to public platforms, for a short time with Bernie Vickers, and ultimately with Martin Carthy.

The group last toured in 1983, but had been performing without Lal for some time. She had been plagued with ill health, and had to withdraw from a US tour in 1981, after which she was replaced by Jill Fidd, who was joined on their final US tour by Lal's niece Eliza, Norma and Martin's daughter, today a Brit Award-nominated star in her own right.

However, in the previous two decades Lal and her brother had both begun writing songs, at first unaware of what the other was doing, but then coming together

*Her life and the disregarded tradition on which she based her work, were political statements of great power*



Waterson with her son, Oliver Knight, with whom she worked

overall. That the wind blows so the crows fly away / And the corn can grow tall."

Carthy's "I'm the Leader of the Rubber Band", was licensed to RCA as a single, and there was talk of a Tip of the Pops appearance, but the group refused to go on the show. Bright Phoebus is out of print, but two tracks (one, "The Magical Man", another composition by Lal and Mike) reappeared recently on Castle Communications' reworking of the Electric Muse folk-rock compilation.

Lal also recorded with her sister and daughter Maria on Topic's *A True Hearted Girl*, in 1977, which included her solo performance of "The Welcome Sailor". She joined the Rotherham-based No Master's Voice song-writing collective (fostered by EMI to drop the last word in their name), for whom she joined with her son Oliver Knight, in recording *Once in a Blue Moon*, an album in many ways as

significant as *Bright Phoebus*.

She was also involved in a television project, *Hard Cash*, for the BBC, who took flight at its condemnation of mid-1980s Thatcherism, and refused to show it. Her song, "Hilda's Cabinet Band", was the most outwardly political of her material, though her life and the disregarded tradition upon which she based her work, was a political statement of great power.

In the last year of her life she was working with her son Oliver, a highly talented electric guitarist and recording engineer. Their follow-up album has not progressed past the rough mix stage.

KARL DALLAS

## ECOMONIC NOTES

ANTHONY KING

# Football's free-market transformation

TODAY, IT IS hard to believe that in 1985 *The Sunday Times* described English professional football as a "stagnant sport, played in squalid stadiums and increasingly watched by squalid people". Yet, although the transformation has been especially striking in the case of football, this resurrection of the game should be seen as an intrinsic part of the wider Thatcherite and post-industrial reformation of Britain, which has extended across practically all spheres.

The Thatcherite reformation has primarily involved the application of two related principles to British life, namely the free market and the strong state. In the face of the collapse of the Keynesian post-war consensus, Thatcher sought, on the one hand, to deregulate the economy, allowing private businesses to flourish away from the interference of the state. On the other hand, in order to provide the legal regulatory framework of the free market and to defend the market from those groups who threatened its operation (such as unions, terrorists and increasingly the growing unemployed underclass), she implemented strong statist measures in the forms of new laws and increased police powers.

The transformation of English football in the 1990s has involved a similar application of free-market and strong statist principles. Indeed, it stands out as a paradigmatic example of the hard-headed application of neo-liberal principles. By the mid-1980s, with the disasters at Bradford and Heysel and, later, at Hillsborough, it became obvious that the Keynesian organisation of football was no longer tenable.

From the mid-1980s, there were demands that football be deregulated in line with other industries so that the most successful clubs were free to maximise their incomes while weaker, "unviable" clubs were no longer protected from market forces. The establishment of the Premier League in 1992 was the realisation of this free-market principle in which the biggest clubs monopolised the huge television contracts they negotiated. In addition, the development of all-seater stadia turned fans into "customers" who paid more for the better services they received while improving gate receipts.

This free-market idea of the customer has had serious disciplinary implications. All-



Fans have been turned into "customers"

seater stadia have restricted the worst excesses of violence and made identifying hooligans easier. However, they have had another less obvious disciplinary effect which is implied in the concept of the customer: The customer refers to families (rather than single young males) and, in particular, to affluent, respectable, disciplined families located in the core of Britain's divided, two-thirds, one-third society.

The creation of a customer for football has above all been a means of excluding the emergent underclass who have been associated with football violence in the past. The apparently benign and apolitical concept of the customer disguises its serious political and social implications, obviating debate about these implications. In the light of the present moves towards a European Superleague, this free-market transformation of football has become a crucial staging-post for a much more radical development of the game in Europe. The Thatcherite reforms of football have taken the sport in a pan-European direction which the biggest clubs across Europe are becoming symbols for the cities and regions in which they are situated, denoting their international status and attracting global capital there. European football is becoming a symbolic arena in which the growing cultural and economic competition between cities and regions in the New Europe is expressed.

Anthony King is the author of *The End of the Terraces: the transformation of English football in the 1990s* (Leicester University Press, £45).

## GAZETTE

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

#### BIRTHS

HELM: On 25 August, to Bernard and Nicky (née Hindmarsh), a son Joseph William (8lb 10oz), brother for Benjamin and Thomas.

#### DEATHS

FISH: (Sidney) Francis, Professor Emeritus of Dentistry at the Royal London Hospital, peacefully in Southmead Hospital, Bristol, on 4 September after a short illness. Beloved father of Virginia and Alison, grandfather of Robert and Thomas, Leslie and James. Cremation at Heygate Crematorium near Bath on Thursday 10 September at 11.30am. A service of thanksgiving will be held at Brynmor Church, Wiltshire at a date to be announced, where the ashes will be buried with those of his adored wife, Sheila. Donations for RNLI and London Hospital. Funeral Directors 0117 855 2824.

Announcements for the Gazette, BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS are charged at £2.50 a line (VAT extra).

#### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visit Ballater and Tarland, Aberdeenshire, and call at Domeside House and Alastair House (properties of The MacRobert Trusts), near Tarland.

#### CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment mounts the Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Irish Guards.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Miss Jeannette Altwegg (Mrs M. Wirz), Olympic skater, 68; Mr Frankie Avalon, singer, 58; Sir Hugh Bennett, High Court judge, 55; Sir John D.K. Brown, former chairman, McLeod Russell plc, 55; Mr James Daly, High Commissioner to Mauritius, 58; Mr Ian Davidson MP, 48; Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, composer, 64; Miss Anne Diamond, television presenter, 44; Mr Michael Frayn, writer and playwright, 55; Mr Anthony Frodsham, company director, 79; Miss Judith Hama, television writer and presenter, 56; Mr Fred Jarvis, former general secretary, National Union of Teachers, 74; Mr Stefan Johansson, motor racing driver, 42; Sir Denis Lasdun CH, architect, 84; Lord Macdougall, a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 53; The Marquess of Lothian, former Conservative minister, 76; Mr Geoff Miller, cricketer, 46; Vice Admiral Sir Roy Newman, former Flag Officer Plymouth and Commander Central Sub Area East Atlantic, 62; Mr Jack Rosenthal, playwright, 67; M Yves St Martin, jockey, 57; Sir Harry Secombe, comedian and singer, 77; Professor Ernst Sondheimer, mathematician, 75; Colonel James Stirling of Garden, Lord Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk, 68; Mr Alfred A. Wood, architect and conservationist, 72.

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Richard I. King (Coeur de Lion), 1157; Ludovico Ariosto, poet, 1474; Louis II de Bourbon, fourth Prince de Condé, soldier, 1621; August Wilhelm von Schlegel, poet and writer, 1767; William Collins, landscape painter, 1788; Eduard Friedrich Mörke, poet, 1804; Emil Naumann, composer

and writer on music, 1827; Joseph-Etienne Frédéric Mistral, poet, 1830; Antonín Dvořák, composer, 1841; Viktor Meyer, chemist, 1848; William Wymark Jacobs, short-story writer, 1863; Alfred Jarry, playwright and poet, 1873; Siegfried Lorraine Sassoon, poet and critic, 1886; Howard Dietz (Dick Howard), lyricist, 1896; Hendrik Fransz Verwoerd, politician, 1901; Jean-Louis Barrault, actor, director and theatre manager, 1910; Peter Richard Henry Sellers, actor and comedian, 1925.

Deaths: Amy Robsart, wife of the Earl of Leicester, found mysteriously dead of a broken neck 1560; Carlo Gesualdo, Prince of Venosa, Neapolitan composer, 1613; Francisco Quarles, poet, 1644; Francisco Gomez de Quevedo y Villegas, poet and satirist, 1645; Am Lee, Shaolin leader, 1784; William James Miller, landscape and figure painter, 1845; George Bradshaw, printer and publisher of railway guides, 1853; Joseph Liouville, mathematician, 1882; Hermann Ludwig Ferdinand von Helmholtz, physicist, 1894; André Derain, painter, 1954; Sir Leonard George Holden Huxley, physicist, 1988.

On this day: the Turkish Siege of Malta ended, 1565; New Amsterdam in North America was surrendered by the Dutch to the English and renamed New York, 1664; in Canada, Montreal surrendered to the British troops, 1760; William IV was crowned King of Great Britain, 1831; Johannesburg, South Africa, was founded, 1886; in the US, a tornado and tidal wave caused widespread havoc, with the loss of over 6,000 lives near Galveston, Texas, 1900; Germany was admitted to

the League of Nations, 1926; the Morro Castle, an American cruise liner, was destroyed by fire, with the loss of 134 lives, 1934; the first V2 flying bombs landed in London, 1944; the first non-stop flight from London to Canada was completed, 1944; the Treaty of Peace with Japan was signed by 49 powers in San Francisco, 1951; the Manila Conference ended, and the South East Asia Defence Treaty was signed, 1954; the Severn Road Bridge was officially opened, 1956; Milton Obote became the first president of the Republic of Uganda, 1967; in Vietnam, Australian Warrant Officer Keith Payne was awarded the VC, 1969; President Ford granted a full pardon to Richard Nixon for "any offences he might have committed while in office", 1974; Cindy Nicholas, a 19-year-old Canadian, swam the Channel both ways in 19 hours 55 minutes, 1977.

Today is the Feast Day of Saints Adrian and Natalia, St Corbinian, St Disibod, St Eusebius, St Kingmark or Cyndrach Oer, St Nestabus, St Nestor, St Sergius I, pope and St Zeno.

#### LECTURES

National Gallery: Alexander Sturges, "Picturing Women (2): Van Dyck, Lady Elizabeth Thimbleby and Dorothy, Viscountess Andover", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Deirdre Robson, "Art Nouveau", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Colin Cruise, "Brotherhoods and Girlhoods: Dante Gabriel Rossetti and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood", 1pm. British Museum: George Hart, "The autobiography of Plathespe: career and honours in the pyramid age", 11.30am. National Portrait Gallery: Juliet Hacking, "Thank Heaven for Little Girls: the photography of Lewis Car-

roll", 1.10pm; John Cooper, "Von Herkomer's Portraits of Lords Kitchener & Baden Powell", 1.10pm. The Wallace Collection, London W1: Jennifer Stern, "Introduction to Stèves Porcelain", 1pm.

#### KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

Term begins on Wednesday 9 September at King's College School, Wimbledon. Mr John Evans takes up the post of Headmaster of the Junior School following the retirement, after 22 years in the post, of Mr Colin Holway. Mr Mark James joins him as Deputy Headmaster. Mr Kevin Hawney has been appointed Senior Master (Pastoral) and Dr Christopher Ray Senior Master (Academic). Mr Ralph Calk, Mr Robert Gullifer, Mr Paul Keyte and Miss Heather McKisack undertake the new roles of Undermasters. Mr Alan Thomas has been appointed Housemaster of Kingsley, Miss Rosamund Davis has been appointed Housemaster of Layton and Mr Michael Chambers has been appointed Housemaster of Major. Mr Mark Allen becomes Director of College Court. The Rev Sarah Robinson-Cole joins the School as Chaplain.

The Captain of School is Nicholas Bianco and the Vice-Captain is Oliver Rawlins. The Captain of Rugby is Mark Hopkins.

The Chamber Choir will sing Evensong at Winchester Cathedral on 24 September and the Gaudy for Old Boys who left between 1975 and 1979 is on 26 September. The school musical, The Boys from Syracuse, will be performed 24-27 November. The Christmas choral concert will be at St Martin-in-the-Fields on 5 December and term will end with the Carol Service at Guildford Cathedral on 18 December.

## 'A campaign against Iraq for the benefit of Iran'

### THE INDEPENDENT ARCHIVE

8 SEPTEMBER 1988

*The Iraqi ambassador to London, Mohammed al-Mashat, asked to talk to 'The Independent' on events in northern Iraq. These are extracts from John Bulloch's interview*

Q: We report that you denied to the Foreign Office that Iraq is using chemical weapons in northern Iraq.  
A: Right.  
Q: At the same time we have reports from just across the border in Turkey of eyewitnesses seeing Iraqi planes dropping chemical weapons. How do you account for this?  
A: Once more I deny this categorically. This is part of the planned co-ordinated propaganda campaign which is intended to blench the image of Iraq and its indirect intention is to lift up the Khomenei regime.  
Q: How do you account for the refugees going into Turkey who have injuries consistent with gas attacks?  
A: Have you seen them? Are these experts? Are you sure?  
Q: Yes, we are sure.  
A: The best thing is to have an international body to investigate such a thing.  
Q: Was it Iraqi planes which bombed Halabja last June?  
A: Halabja was bombed by Iraqis and they used chemical weapons.  
Q: I have another report, published last night by an independent British organisation, which said it was Iraq which bombed Halabja.  
A: Where is the report from international organisations?  
Q: The UN.  
A: We have used chemical weapons but the Iraqis have used them first.  
Q: But you are not using chemical weapons in northern Iraq now?  
A: This is an outrageous lie.  
Q: It is an outrageous lie by the governor of Halabja province, by three or four Turkish MPs,

some neutral international commission which goes to northern Iraq and finds that chemical weapons were, in fact, used, what would you do then? Would you resign?  
A: No, I would not resign my post.  
Q: Have you checked with your government that everything you are saying is true?  
A: That's right. My government, even before me, denies this officially. We will not accept any meddling in our internal affairs. Everybody is suddenly concerned about the supposed plight of the Kurds.  
Q: Not suddenly, a long time. Six weeks the campaign has been running now.  
A: Well, listen; I did not say that the Iraqi army and the Kurdish fighters who are proud of their accomplishment in Iraq which you do not want to recognise, for various ulterior motives you and other people who are taking up this campaign, whose conscience was not moved that Iraq was not giving any rights to the Kurds. It is our right to hit the terrorists, those who pillage, kill and kidnap people, who co-operate with and who are receiving arms from Khomenei.  
Q: We are the same as you: we will follow up and fight terrorism in the same way you fight terrorism, and in the same way you don't permit any people to interfere, or ask about your measures against terrorism. We're the same way, and we are proud of it.  
Q: From the Foreign News pages of 'The Independent', Thursday 8 September 1988

### WORDS

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE  
parp, n, vb

sometimes 'Porp-Porp'. Two decades on, Amis's narrator, in the preface *The Rachel Papers* says that "to break her reveries I

parped the horn". No other word quite fits the bill. "Hoot" sounds frivolous and "to sound the horn" suggests a leisurely era of warning off stray sheep, not the urgencies of contemporary road-rage, for which the blast of "parp" is ideal - especially with Noddy's new success on American television.

WHAT LINKS Enid Blyton and Martin Amis? Some say that she had a surer grasp of contemporary idiom. He certainly took her lead. In 1951, in the chaste *Big Noddy Book*, the eponymous hero "had a good little hooter on his car. When he pressed it he said 'Pip Pip' and sometimes 'Porp Porp', and



# Dr Strangelove's secrets

Terrifying truths about the Cold War period are leaking out from archives around the world. By Paul Lashmar

When the film *Dr Strangelove* was released in 1964, the plot – of a mad American air force commander unleashing a nuclear bomber attack on the Soviet Union – was decided by military critics. White House officials and Pentagon Generals alike maintained that no attack could be launched without “civilian authority” the finger of the President on the “button”.

Documents declassified last week show that the nuclear holocaust of Kubrick's powerful film satire was indeed possible. Authority to approve a nuclear launch was “predelegated” by the President to the military from the time of Eisenhower. This was in force at the time of the film's release at the height of the Cold War.

According to Bill Burr of the Washington-based National Security Archive, the documents “disclose one of the Cold War's deepest secrets, that during the most dangerous phases of the US-Soviet confrontation during the early Sixties top military commanders had presidentially authorised instructions providing advance authority to use nuclear weapons under specified emergency conditions”.

The models for the mad air force generals of *Dr Strangelove* are widely believed to be the cigar-chomping, ass-kicking Curtis E. LeMay and the steely-eyed Thomas Power, who ran America's nuclear bomber force from 1948-57 and 1957-63 respectively. LeMay's predilection for nuclear weapons became only too clear when he was standing for vice-presidential candidate in 1968, proving too extreme and embarrassing even for his running mate, the noted racist George Wallace. More recently I interviewed several of General “Tommy” Power's deputies, who considered him mentally unstable. General Horace Wade remarked, “I felt he was losing his stability as he aged...”

These new revelations are all part of a wealth of new historical material. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, historians have accessed some of the most secret files of the Communist bloc. Once locked up in the deepest vaults, the archives of the “evil empire” have gradually been opened, allowing scholars to examine whether Communist leaders were really intent on world domination. A batch of major new Cold War histories offer some startling revelations:

● The division of Germany was the result of American policies that pushed the Soviets towards creating the “Iron Curtain”.

● Stalin did not order the North Korean leader Kim Il Sung to launch an attack on South Korea. Nor did he see it as a precursor to a wider Soviet offensive in Europe.

● The Chinese were influential in persuading Khrushchev to crack down on the 1956 Hungarian uprising. The Russians had, at one point, been prepared to let Hungary go.

● One contender in the Kremlin battle to replace Stalin, the ruthless secret police chief, Beria, proposed that the Soviets should offer the West a deal on the unification and neutralisation of Germany. This was pivotal in his arrest and execution.

● Had the Americans invaded Cuba during the 1962 missile crisis they would have been met with Soviet tactical nuclear weapons.

● Détente founded in the late Seventies after Henry Kissinger repeatedly charged the Kremlin with using Cuban surrogates to spread power and influence on Africa and

the Third World. New material shows that the Kremlin had little control over the Cubans.

“Now the Cold War is over, its history has become a growth industry,” says Tom Blanton, director of the National Security Archive. International conferences abound, and a 24-part Cold War TV series will be transmitted on BBC2 from 12 September.

Blanton says that a post-Cold War generation of international historians are grappling with the “new” Cold War history. “Mostly younger scholars clustered round the Cold War History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center – including James Hershberg, Vladislav Zubok, Chen Jian, Kathryn Weathersby, Mark Kramer, Csaba Bekes and Hope Harrison – have pioneered the integration of sources from the “other side” into a nuanced, contextual and truly international version of our recent past”.

These two American projects both have well organised websites that allow you to look at fascinating and often chilling original documents of the period. For example the KGB's 1967 annual report to President Brezhnev documents their successes: “During 1967 [the KGB] recruited 218 foreigners, among whom 64 possess operational capacities for work against the US. Reinforcement of agent networks of the intelligence service contributed to obtaining important information on political, military and scientific-technological problems... the KGB carried out operations of clandestine pilfering of secret documents from intelligence services of the enemy. These and other measures resulted in obtaining the codes of seven capitalist countries and in implanting eavesdropping radio devices at 36 installations of interest for Soviet intelligence.”

The “enemy” archives disclose a Communist system that appears as bad as anything its worst critics alleged. The full horror of Stalin's purges, genocide and forcible relocations is confirmed. Both Russian and Western experts agree that Stalin's policies before the Second World War cost between 17 and 22 million lives.

Understanding the mind of Stalin is a preoccupation of these historians. While the archives confirm the vile domestic repression of the Soviet State, they also show that Stalin was far from a fiendish global totalitarian strategist. He frequently confused his officials with his contradictory policies.

According to Vladislav Zubok and Constantine Pleshakov, two of the new generation of Russian historians and also authors of *Inside the Kremlin's Cold War*, the Soviets pursued a “cautious expansionism” in those areas that Stalin and his advisers defined as “natural” spheres of influence. There was “no master plan in the Kremlin and Stalin's ambitions had always been severely limited by the terrible devastation of the USSR during World War Two and the existence of the American atomic monopoly”.

Of most interest to scholars is the seminal and most terrifying moment of the Cold War: the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. The new archive material reveals that it was an even more desperate moment than previously realised. The prevailing view has been that it was successful American nuclear brinkmanship which persuaded Khrushchev to pull the missiles out of Cuba. In the words of the then Secretary of State Dean



Thirty years on, the fantasy of the insane Dr Strangelove seems uncomfortably close to reality

Rusk. “We're eyeball to eyeball, and I think the other fellow just blinked.”

Many Western Cold War warriors still believe Kennedy “lost” the Crisis because he did not invade Cuba. What no one in the West knew until recently was that the Soviet commanders on the island had more Medium Range Ballistic Missiles (MRBMs) than the CIA was

presidential archive and the KGB archive in Moscow. “The Chinese have released very little material so far,” he says. Ostermann describes his job as “probably one of the most exciting jobs you can have in this field”.

Last November the project organised a remarkable conference in Warsaw examining the Polish crisis

Once locked up in the deepest vaults, the archives of the ‘evil empire’ have gradually been opened to scholars

of 1980-81, when martial law had been imposed and most of the Solidarity trade union leaders had been arrested. Remarkably, many of the key figures involved from all sides attended, including the then Polish prime minister, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Solidarity leader, Zbigniew Bujak, the Russian military commander Marshal Viktor Kulikov and the American national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

“There is now incontrovertible evidence that Julius was guilty of spy-

ing,” says Blanton. “But it does not support the old right-wing position either, as it is now clear that Ethel was charged to put pressure on her husband. She should have never been executed.”

Blanton says it is this kind of definitive information from the archives that is changing the face of Cold War history. “The new generation of scholars are very careful not to plunk themselves down in the old schools, whether orthodox, revisionist or whatever. The questions are also changing. What seem like important questions now will increasingly be seen themselves to be products of the old ideological stances of the Cold War.”

Internet websites:  
American National Security Archive: [www.seas.gwu.edu/nsarchive](http://www.seas.gwu.edu/nsarchive)  
Cold War Project: <http://cwilp.si.edu>  
National Archives: [www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov)  
CNN Cold War series interactive: [www.cnn.com/coldwar](http://www.cnn.com/coldwar)  
British Public Records Office: [www.pro.gov.uk](http://www.pro.gov.uk)  
Institute for Contemporary British History: [www.icbh.us.us.uk](http://www.icbh.us.uk)

## JOYS OF MODERN LIFE



12. VODKA & TONIC  
BY CAITE WILLIAMS

VODKA AND tonic. Wonderful words. The former is a fabulous command. Perhaps it means “pour! now!” in some ancient East European dialect. Perhaps some superb fur-clad Cossack walked up to a Muscovite bar and shouted “Vod! ka!” while banging his fist on the table.

Tonic, however, is genteel. It conjures up images of nice ladies in floaty dresses sipping cool drinks on an English lawn.

Vodka and tonic became hugely popular in the late Eighties, when the conspicuous consumer consciousness decided that gin and tonic was a no-no. There were too many connotations of suburban housewives and depression. Vodka and tonic had glamour, a sort of post-glasnost gleam.

Now even Gwyneth Paltrow, the Gucci designer Tom Ford and Liz Hurley confess to a soft spot for the tipple, while Robbie Williams has two goldfish, one called vodka, the other, tonic. None of this has put me off.

Vodka and tonic may be referred to as vodka tonic – or “voddyton”, in a sort of *Abigail's Party* way – but never as V&T. I remember my first. I was 15 and thought it was absolutely disgusting. This, of course, accounts for its appeal.

There was a ten-year gap before the next one. I fell in with a reckless crowd who thought that a bloody Mary should always precede breakfast. I learnt that Absolut and Smirnoff were best: Absolut because the bottle was designed by Philippe Starck, and Smirnoff because of its glorious past (its founder was purveyor of vodka to the Tsars).

I recall nights of drinking with my new-found chums, watching the tonic in my glass turn neon in ultraviolet light, and drinking in a garden at midnight while my stilettos sank into the lawn. We drank vodka tonics so strong you couldn't see the bubbles.

Over the years I learnt to make the perfect “smart vodka”. First toss three ice cubes and a squeeze of fresh lime into a tall, frosted glass. Then add one part of syrupy, straight-from-the-freezer Stolichnaya. Throw a slice of lime in with two parts of Schweppes tonic water. Take a good slug and feel the vodka kick, the tonic zing and the lime tang explode.

No other vodka combination comes close. Sea Breezes (vodka, cranberry juice and grapefruit juice) is a C&A mini to the voddyton's Prada knee-length skirt; Cape Cod (vodka and cranberry juice) goes down faster than Monica Lewinsky in a hurry. No, Vodka tonic is it. With bells on.

## CLASSIFIED

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## Feeding frenzy

Continued from page 1

liquor-licensing laws, and drink after midnight. Know the best way is to sit at a table in Eamonn, in the heart of Soho, and drink till 3am, surrounded by green-haired Japanese youth watching Tokyo game shows.

Metropolitan trends apart, we all, as a nation, have started eating out more. Among other statistics quoted in the Sunday press are the projections of the Marketpower trend-watchers. According to them, the number of meals served in British restaurants will increase from 461m to 488m in the next three years. Who is doing all this eating? It seems to be the middle-range, middle-income, ordinary middle-classes. Given the right premises, they'll eat in them. Which is why Bass, Whitbread and Grand Met, the biggest owners of pubs in the UK, have been buying up middle-market restaurant chains: Chez Gerard, Break for

the Border, Bella Pasta, Browns, Pelican, TGI Friday's, Mamma Amalfi – they've all flourished in the provinces, just as their share value has steadily improved in the last couple of years. Only Café Flo and Pierre Victoire have run into trouble.

Families who take their children to the Pizza Express on Saturday lunchtimes now have a range of other places at which to spend their modest £25-30 per visit. As salaries have risen, the relative cost of eating out at lunchtime has decreased; you can now buy sandwiches in Cranks that cost more than the three-course Thai lunch available in Cambridge Circus. When even the coolest new restaurants offer reasonable price-for-value menus between £15 and £25, they're within the budgets of foodies un-blessed by an expensive account.

“At the top end of the market, [diners] do not want to go to a chain,” said Luke Johnson last

month. He has a point. Taking Hillary Clinton out to dinner at TGI Friday's rather than the Poul de la Tour would indeed be a gaffe. One naturally pays a premium for exclusivity, the personal touch, the certainty that it's Marco or Gordon or Gary in person who is putting the last sliver of apple garnish around your creme brûlée.

But Mr Johnson is in the vanguard of perhaps the most significant trend of all – the upmarket restaurant chain, disseminating the best cuisine through a couple of dozen outlets from Totnes to Thirsk. He already plans to launch 20 Belgo bars and there is nothing to stop him trying to recreate the menu, the style and the ambience of the Ivy and Le Caprice in Bristol, Manchester, Newcastle... The signs are that a newly discriminating population of eaters-out would welcome such a move. And then it would be time for the Mezzo

chain, the Mash chain, the Quo Vadis chain, the Pharmacy chain...

There's no telling where it will all end. Will we adopt the habit – now standard in American big cities – of breakfasting in a local restaurant every morning? (Yes, once we get over the working-class associations of the greasy-spoon caff and the cholesterol-rich fry-up). We might become like Joey and Chandler, flatmates in the TV series *Friends*, who share a joke thus: “What are your plans for dinner?” “Well – we could eat in.” “Yeah – that'd be nice.” Whereupon they both burst out laughing. But as the British business appetite for investing and expanding in restaurants gets more and more ravenous, the British appetite for eating out is keeping pace. The possibility that we may finish up poor and obese, crippled either by bankruptcy or indigestion is, for the moment, off the menu.

0345 58 56 80



# All you know about kids is wrong

Children are formed by peers, not parents, claims Judith Harris, entirely at odds with mainstream thinking. By Angela Neustatter

As Judith Rich Harris waited for the publication of her book, *The Nurture Assumption*, in New York last week, she anticipated that some of the elders in the field of psychology are going to go out of their way to try and savage this.

On the face of it, this is grandiosity. Harris's career has been spent writing textbooks and there's not a PhD to her name - added to which she is a grandmother with a seriously debilitating illness working and living far from New York's highbrow life in New Jersey. It's not exactly the usual profile of an author who whips up serious intellectual storms. What on earth can psychologists have to fear from her?

But the core question in her book is one that overturns the cornerstone of current child development theory. Harris asks: Do parents matter? Her stated purpose is to "dissuade you of the notion that a child's personality is shaped or modified by the parents".

So far Harris has received only accolades for her work which began as an article outlining the theory that the defining influence on children comes from their peers. It was published by the prestigious and extremely choosy US journal *Psychological Review* and went on to win the American Psychological Association's prize.

Praise and comments ahead of publication from influential social scientists indicated how seriously Harris's ideas were being taken. Supporters included Steven Pinker, the professor of psychology and director of the center for cognitive neuroscience at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who said: "The most promising hypotheses, I suspect, will come from recognising that childhood is a jungle and that the first problem children face is how to hold their own among siblings and peers."

But whatever they may be saying the other side of the Atlantic, many child development experts over here share the view of Sebastian Kramer, a consultant psychiatrist at London's Tavistock Centre, who says: "Harris has some very interesting ideas but she seems to have overlooked the massive literature showing the absolute importance of what goes on between parents and their young before the children are able to go out and relate to peers."

So what led Harris to come up with her theory? Her epiphany came, she says, while reading a paper on juvenile delinquency that suggested that teenagers whose rebellion takes the form of acting "grown up" - smoking, drinking, stealing cars to drive, insisting on staying out late - did so because they wanted mature status. But in a moment of clarity it seemed to Harris that the author had got it all wrong.

What adolescents were trying to do was contrast themselves with adults, not emulate them. She says: "From that grew the idea that if adolescents didn't want to be like adults, they wanted to be like other adolescents. Children were identifying and learning from other children. It was as if a light had gone on in the sky. In a minute or two I had the germ of a theory and in 10 minutes I had enough of it to see that it was important."

Harris pulls together a wealth of studies - notably several studies of twins showing that parental input makes very little difference - which appear to demonstrate that it is the genetic inheritance of children that



In *'The Nurture Assumption'*, Judith Harris suggests that peers, not parents, are the defining influence on children.

John Voos

makes them similar to parents, even when it appears to be environment.

In Robert Plomin's seven-year Colorado Adoption Project a group of 245 adopted children were given a variety of personality and intelligence tests throughout their childhood, and similar tests were given to the adoptive parents. These were replicated with a matched control group where the children were with biological parents.

In this last group a number of personality and behavioural similarities were picked up between parents and children, but absolutely none of significance between the adopted children and their parents, even though they had been nurtured from a very young age by these adoptive mothers and fathers. In other words, the Colorado study concluded that it was the genes that created the similarities in the natural families and that the environment counted for virtually nothing.

Even when it seems very clear that parental behaviour has been a formative influence, it may simply be genes, Harris says. She takes as her example nice parents who manifest

this by being cuddly and kind with their children who in turn are assumed to be nice because of their nurture. In fact they may simply be nice children because of the parental gene.

Parents also react to the genetic baggage children bring into the world, Harris argues, so they will treat a highly-strung demanding child one way and a benign and rewarding child another, and children will respond to what is done to them. But the parents are reacting to who the child is, not shaping its personality.

She then asks us to look at studies where very young children have grouped themselves together and behaved in a way their parents did not want and other studies where children, from the moment they meet, take their cues from each other. She cites a large study comparing the behaviour of poor inner-city kids from intact families to the behaviour of those living only with their mothers and found that the loss of the father did not seem to be significant and that the peer group was the decisive factor in whether they were anti-social or not.

In saying all this, Harris is joining "a huge Western shift to deny how utterly fundamental early bonding and nurture are", says Adam Jukes, a psychotherapist and a member of the steering committee of the International Attachment Network set up to bring us back to the importance of attachment theories of the kind John Bowlby so influentially introduced in the Fifties.

Is Harris saying, he asks, that all these experts who concluded that the boys who murdered James Bulger had been influenced by their home lives were wrong? Is he wrong when he sees clear lines between the pathology of the violent men he works with and what happened to them in their very early years at the hands of their parents? And, Sebastian Kramer adds, are all these professionals working with children from teachers and play leaders to psychologists and psychiatrists wrong when they talk of the parental influence they see so clearly acted out in children?

And what of the massive research that shows children are far more likely to divorce if their parents do, or to abuse if they have been

abused - is Harris suggesting these are genetic personality traits?

However, Kramer agrees that Harris is correct to stress the importance of peers in our children's lives - as Professor William A. Cosaro, a pioneer in the ethnography of early childhood at Indiana University, says: "Kids teach each other how to be social." And he adds: "Children go on being more and more influenced by the peers they mix with. But the point is that their ability to be able to relate to peers is a direct result of how secure and safe they are made to feel through their very early nurture."

"That beginning in the home provides a template for how the child goes on to deal with the world whether in a positive or negative way. Harris appears to simply ignore the first social relationship which is not with other children but with a parent in the first year. Reading what she has to say it is as though childhood starts at two and a half."

Charles Lewis, who leads major studies on children and families at Lancaster University, is interested by how Harris has brought together behavioural genetics and a new

slant on the social influences, but he is "cynical" about how new her peer group theory really sounds.

"Sociologists of childhood have been plugging away at the influence of peer group since the Twenties, for example Yllozsky, who looked at the gang as an entity, and the British critical criminologists of the Sixties and Seventies, such as Stan Cohen and Jock Young," he says.

"The real flaw is that Harris has wiped out the complexity of what influences and moulds children, and I imagine she has done this in order to create a straightforward and radical thesis because that's what gets published and sells."

What Harris has identified here, in the view of Julia Vellacott, a psychotherapist who has written on the relationship between mother and child, is the importance for children of differentiating themselves from their parents: "There is this eternal redempting by the younger generation of itself, and, in psychoanalytic terms, it's anti-incestuous, a turning away from parents to whom you were once so desperately bound and still may be in the unconscious. But to say that a child's personality is in

no way shaped by parents is absurd. What Harris is doing is offering a way out of the enormous angst and guilt today's parents suffer. But it's not good enough to do it by denying the importance of children's need of early attachment and their on-going need of their parents."

*The Nurture Assumption* is not likely to be embraced by Tony Blair and his lot, at a time when they are building a Parenting Institution designed to focus parents on the importance of their role. And while the idea of a book that reduces parental guilt may be a good thing, the next stage on, if we accept what Harris says about not being all that important for our children, could be giving up responsibility.

*The Nurture Assumption*, in which Harris suggests hitherto that it makes no difference whether you spend two hours or 10 with your child, whether they virtually live with a nanny or are sent to boarding school, could lead yet more parents to be irresponsible or more casual about bothering to find time for their kids, and if Harris is wrong - as many believe passionately that she is - those kids will pay the price.

## Sex with your sun-dried tomatoes, sir?

Prostitutes plying their trade among the groceries has curtailed the 24-hour opening of a London shop. By Vanessa Thorpe

THERE IS one area of trade where you could have been forgiven for assuming that the traditional high street still had the modern supermarket chains licked.

True, the big foodstores have moved in on the territory of the delicatessens, the bakeries, the fishmongers and even the banks, but that corner patch marked out by the friendly local prostitute has always seemed pretty secure.

Yet this week an experiment with 24-hour opening at a North London branch of Budgens has been prematurely curtailed due to the unsavoury transactions going on in its aisles. Prostitutes, according to the store's manager, had been spotted offering their services in return for baskets of groceries.

"It was obvious they were ladies of the night," Dave Huggett, the manager, told the local press. "They would come in with their minders. It was a nightmare for the staff." It is not clear whether the women concerned were going so far as to specify to the punters the kind of goods they wanted but - developing the food/sex equation - Mr Huggett



went on to say: "Some offered it on a plate in return for the goods."

Budgens has quickly reassessed the opening hours of the store, which is situated in Crouch End - a strong candidate for the London suburb name with the best double entendre readily at its disposal.

After only six weeks, the 24-hour shopping experiment was stopped and the store has reverted to a mid-night closing time. It seems it was

the twilight hours that were causing the problem.

"We are getting too many undesirable," said Mr Huggett. "It's a shame, but we weren't getting the right sort of customer."

Budgens' headquarters was not prepared to comment on the quality of the nocturnal customer at Crouch End. A spokesman preferred instead to emphasise the difficulty the supermarket experienced

in attracting high numbers throughout the night.

"The trouble was, there were just not enough people coming into our store on The Broadway in Crouch End to make it worthwhile," he said. "And it can be a rough area at that time anyway."

Not "rough", surely? The branch is surrounded by ethnic gift shops, bookshops and second-hand pine furniture dealers.

Perhaps Budgens were carried away by the seedy associations of the term "Broadway". The lyric "they say the neon lights are bright on Broadway" was certainly never meant to apply to the N8 postal area. As for "the glitter rubbing off... When you ain't got enough to eat," Budgens does seem to have seen to that one by simply shutting up shop.

Of course, staff employed to work around the clock in convenience stores and supermarkets all over the country have had to develop a fairly tough attitude to life. They are repeatedly exposed to the seamy side of the seamy side.

Drunks and thieves are the recurrent problems. But Mohamed

Mubarak, the deputy manager of a 24-hour supermarket in Tottenham Court Road, finds amorous clubbers are another common feature of his work.

"Young girls and boys come in after the clubs close to buy sandwiches and bottles of water and, if it is cold outside, they sometimes stay for a long time, kissing and things." But Mohamed says he does not mind. In his book the customer is always right and he and his staff are often grateful for the company.

Balfour, the night-time manager at a rival Europa store in the West End, comes across the same sort of romantic entanglements by his chilled cabinets, but as he rather jadedly points out: "It is very hard to tell these days if a woman is a prostitute, the way they dress for the clubs. I would not like to say anything to someone in case I was wrong."

Both managers admit, however, to drawing a strict line when it comes to access to the staff toilet. Each night a procession of courting night owls will ask if they can use the loo for unspecified reasons.

"I don't know what other man-

agers do, but I just say no to it," said Balfour. "You don't know what people are going to do, or whether they even have drugs with them on the premises."

In Crouch End, predictably, things were more sophisticated, in a London kind-of-a-way. Let's face it, a prostitute who is prepared to sleep with a man for an aubergine, a focaccia loaf and some sun-dried tomatoes is playing a different sort of game altogether. Needless to say, staff at this branch did not catch anyone in flagrante by the flagpole beans.

It must still rate as a relatively risky and public way to pick up a prostitute, though. One would have thought that, compared to the embarrassment of passing through the check-out with a newly-acquired hooker, the time honoured blushes of lone men facing sneering cashiers with comedy items such as haemorrhoid ointment, pale into insignificance.

Perhaps it was the blatant inappropriateness of the venue that provided the thrill. Tom, a painter living in Hampstead thinks so. He regu-

larly works through the night and as a result he sometimes ends up visiting a 24-hour supermarket at around three or four in the morning. "At that time, which really is the absolute dead of the night, these supermarkets are slightly sexually-charged places," he observes. "You can't help noticing the other people there and wondering. It is the same thing with libraries."

In the end, the hookers of Crouch End were really just getting back to basics and cutting out the middle-man. Why waste time with a shopping trolley when you can get your client to do it for you?

The penguins who were memorably discovered selling sex in the Antarctic this February have a set of equally admirable, pared-down principles.

Scientists observing colonies of Adelie penguins living about 800 miles from the South pole noticed that the female birds were slipping away from their partners to visit the nests of unpaired males. After a brief courtship, they mated, and then left with the payment of a valuable rock with which to fortify.



The Embassy club was London's version of Studio 54 – a keyed-up, overheated, gay model of the original. By Kate Mulvey

# We made it feel mighty real

Disco is back in the British consciousness. This week sees the release of the film, *The Last Days Of Disco*, starring Chloë Sevigny and Kate Beckinsale, and the film *54*, celebrating the decadent shenanigans of the famous New York night-club, is soon to be released. But why does the once maligned decade of "bad taste" hold such lingering appeal, 20 years later? Because no matter what you really think about the Seventies, you can't go to a wedding without hearing Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive" or turn on the radio without some disco queen blaring out tunes such as "Good Times" to a funky, upbeat tempo.

But maybe, therein lies the answer. Disco may be naïf, but it's fun. And in the knowing Nineties when everyone is so damn cool, the simple but positive lyrics have an endearing quality that all of Oasis's moody backdrops and drop dead scowls could never achieve.

At the same time that Liza Minnelli was "getting on down" with Truman Capote in Studio 54, in London there was an even wilder, more dysfunctional club. Smaller, more intimate and far more outrageous in its dress, the Embassy club on Old Bond Street took London by storm when it opened in April 1978. Weird-looking creatures would regularly spend their Saturday night lined up outside the stuffy antiques shops of this respectable area of London's West End, looking like a cast from a Fellini opera and determined to make it past the inscrutable doorman.

But what was it about Studio 54 and the Embassy that made them the magical places they were? Where celebrities were prepared to wait for 45 minutes in a British or New York winter, just to grate under the strobe lighting with a bunch of gay boys?

For a start, the Embassy had little to do with straight disco. Travolta may have immortalised the image of the disco in 1976, when he strutted his stuff as Tony Manero in the cult film *Saturday Night Fever*, but unlike Tony's world, where working-class boys went to the local disco for a bit of the action, and the disco-dancing competition was the height of their year, the Embassy was not about boy meets girl, but a place where sexual decadence reigned, underpinned by a homoerotic aesthetic that continued the rituals of the New York gay scene.

But then disco started as an underground gay phenomenon in about 1973 in New York, and Steven Hayter, the man behind the Embassy, had earned his disco stripes as a club promoter at the hip Le Jardin nightclub, part of the New York gay scene. If anyone knew how to ruin a straight/gay club, he was the man.

Like 54, the Embassy was blatantly bisexual. With its roots in gay culture, it bridged the gap between Tony Manero's local haunt and the gay scene. It was this fusion of flamboyant decadence with the celebrity element, that made the club so special. Instead of spending your Saturday night at a club where the people were a mundane extension of your everyday world with a bit of music thrown in, the Embassy was different. It catered to a cross-section, from transsexuals to European aristocrats, you were unlikely to see these people again, but once you were inside, everyone was your friend for the night and you were part of a big dysfunctional family.



Liza Minnelli and Bianca Jagger at the Embassy in 1979: 'Going to the Embassy was like being in a Hollywood movie with everyone wanting to be the star'

Richard Young/Ret

I was a 16-year-old schoolgirl at the time, naïve and on the eve of womanhood. To me the Embassy club became a fantasy world, where I could be who I wanted and do what I wanted.

Once inside the club, you felt you were part of a privileged elite group of people. Drunk and high on the music, I would dance with girls dressed in the style of the Forties vamp, with witty veils and off-the-shoulder dresses, or swing around with a gorgeous Italian count. Cocaine spilled over the tables, young men in jock-straps and pillar-box hats danced on the bar, and drag queens simulated sex on the rostrum.

Hayter had established an exciting and addictive pleasure palace, which caught the mood of the times perfectly. The layout and décor of the club had been strategically designed for effortless people-watching. Posing took place upstairs in the dance area, where the waiters in their red-and-white satin shorts (a direct copy of 54) danced provocatively on the bar. There was a narrow balcony, dark and secluded enough for sexual favours to be meted out, yet perfectly placed to watch the gyrating

bodies of the disco dancers below. The dance floor itself, with the ubiquitous silver bauble, dry ice and strobe lighting (which made you look as if you were moving in slow motion, heightened, of course, by copious amounts of amyl nitrate), was like a goldfish bowl. The cool people stood around and watched, as the freaks boogied on down. At the end of the night, when the last bars of Sylvester's "You Make Me Feel Mighty Real" played out, the lights would go on and faces, ashen grey from over-indulgence, looked back at you vacantly. The dream was over for another night, and you waited for your next fix.

A rostrum just above the dance floor kept exhibitionists on view, and they would enact simulated love scenes as the DJ shone the spotlight on them.

But while the show-offs got their posing fix, the real action was going on downstairs. The long bar in the basement of the club was where the club-rub routes would invite pretty young things to drink champagne and snort a few lines.

Couples were known to slip off to the loos to give physical bent to their

passion. The male and female lavatories were well known for the debauched scene that could meet an unsuspecting onlooker if they were not prepared.

As at Studio 54, the inner sanctum was a tatty back room, where young girls and VIPs could take their drugs in peace and receive any sexual favours that might be on offer. "Coming to the back room?" meant you were either going to get stoned or take part in some depraved act.

My first and last kiss with a woman took place in the famous Embassy back room. Now I look back in amusement, but then it was all part of behaving badly for the fun of it. Even though sex permeated everything from the disco lyrics to the costumes, this was not a seedy pick-up joint. It was a far more heady experience, owing more to a Bacchanalian feast or Roman orgy than a few pints down the Pinner and Pano with a fumbled, drunken shag at the end of the night.

But this was 1978, after all, and England was at the height of moral decadence. Sexual ambiguity was a sort of camp sensibility, and an integral part of the Seventies feeling.

Remember glam rock, and Bowie and Jagger with their camp dressing-up and homoerotic behaviour?

This was pre-Aids, and despite a depressing cultural climate with excessive inflation and government corruption, people were still riding on the late-Sixties wave of free sex, and the hippie, anything-goes mentality. In the Seventies, bisexuality was a lifestyle choice, and if you were "happening", indiscriminate sex and abandoned drug-taking were just par for the course.

It was just like going to a big party. The atmosphere was wild; everyone dressed up and made an effort. Anthony Price once said that going to the Embassy was like being in a Hollywood movie with everyone wanting to be the star. Friendly it may have been, but everyone wanted to be the king or queen of glam.

"Marilyn", an ex-Embassy waiter who dressed up as his icon, would sit on the stairs of the club (often used as a place for chatting people up or exchanging coke) with his friend Boy George and ask people who was the prettiest. Everyone joined in the game; it was all part of the illusion.

Every celebrity in town would make an appearance at the Embassy. David Bowie, Pete Townshend, Mick Jagger and Marie Helvin were just some of the London glitterati who could be found propping up the bar with their groupies. Even some of the Blitz kids, who looked down on disco music and thought they were so artistic, could be found whirling around with a bottle of amyl nitrate in one hand and a dubious partner in the other. Boy George, Steve Strange and Rusty Egan, although New Romantics at heart, were staunch regulars on the Embassy dance floor.

It may not have cut ice with the punk factions of the time, who with their nihilism and no-hope attitude wouldn't be seen dead dancing around to "You Make Me Feel Mighty Real", but like Studio 54 it was the place to be. It was cooler than its more glitzy neighbour Tramp, which seemed to have been inundated by Arabs, and held more kudos than the smaller and blacker Mamboberies.

The door policy was strict but democratic; contemporary icons, freaks and beautiful people were in-

cluded and those who did not fit into the scene were kept out. The mixed white, black, straight and gay crowd was a *mélange* of glamorous drag queens, leather-clad gays and girls draped in gowns by Halston, Gucci and Fiorucci. Everyone took part in the disco tradition of dressing up to go dancing. It was a far cry from today's dressing down in trainers and combat trousers.

The Embassy represented a twilight era of sexual liberation, which soon came to a halt as Thatcher came to power and the business-driven Eighties took over. In a sense, it was a "going nowhere" club. It hit the spot for a short period of time and eclipsed every other club in London. Yet when disco was over and music moved towards a more technological approach, the Embassy lost its appeal. It carried on briefly in the Eighties, but instead of stories of naughty goings-on, all there was were a handful of Sloanes trying to get off with their best friend's sister. It was a bit like waking up and realising that the world is really in black and white, and no matter what happens, the party is well and truly over.

## REVELATIONS

MAEVE BINCHY, DUBLIN, 1957

MY MOTHER would talk not only to the person beside her on the bus, but the whole bus. As a teenager, I used to wish she didn't, because I was very self-conscious.

Tortured by the idea that everybody was watching me, I tried to make the most of myself, but as I was fat that was always hard. I remember getting ready for my very first dance, and because there were no tanning beds or fake tan lotion, I rubbed on my face a mixture of Nivea and the cheapest brand of brown boot polish – which most people wouldn't even put on their shoes.

From childhood, my friends and I had been peeping through the railings to watch this dance. We'd decided that girls in red were danced with more. Red didn't suit me, so I bought a horrible turquoise dress for 16 shillings. I'd tried it on so often, admiring myself in the mirror, that once when eating a choc-ice I dropped it over the front. With that and boot polish on my face, it is amazing that I wasn't ordered home from the hall.

I was very dangerous to dance

with, and the few men that did must have regretted it when they were left with strange marks on their chests.

As a student at University College Dublin, studying history, I thought academic life would be some kind of beauty contest, where the petite and fleet of foot would win all the garlands. We had this lovely big park called St Stephen's Green, and we students thought we owned it.

One day in my first year, I was sitting on a park bench wearing my "good" coat, beige with a brown velvet collar, which was really my old school coat. I looked awful and childish. Feeling miserable, I started thinking, "Gosh, if only I had a navy duffel coat I wouldn't look so ludicrous, and the boys would fancy me."

I was brought up in a convent school, and there was quite a lot of emphasis by the nuns on the amount of lust we would meet in the outside world. It was up to us girls to try to keep it in the confines of good Catholic marriage. I was almost a little bit disappointed that there was so

little lust around for me to repel.

In a blue duffel coat, I imagined much more practice in defending my holy purity. It would have had toggles and a little hood at the back, which you never put up, the *dernier cri* of the Fifties. Men wore them, women wore them – just like jeans nowadays, the duffel coat was a badge of belonging.

It was a lovely day and there were so many people moving around it was almost like an ant hill. I put down the book I was reading. Suddenly it was as clear as daylight, and it's never gone back: "Nobody is looking at me – it does not matter what I'm wearing. All these people walking through St Stephen's Green are wondering how they look. It's like after a dance, they're not all going to return home and tell their families: 'Maevie Binchy didn't get danced with for this number of times', or 'she was wearing an absurd yellow dress'."

It was an incredible liberation. Straightaway I stopped saving for the duffel coat – it didn't matter any more. The people



who wanted to have coffee and cakes with me, or dance with me, did it because they liked me. I didn't care if a guy had spots, or tank hair falling into his eyes, if he was nice and interested in things. I assumed they would feel the same way, too. From then onwards I was never afraid. I wore miniskirts in the days when no fat girl should have, and with total delight.

Stopping being self-conscious opened a door to other things – such as a kibbutz in Israel at 23. I didn't care that I was the only Catholic girl there, or how I would look in shorts as I picked

oranges. I was much more interested in listening to other people talking, and hearing their stories. Stories have taken me to some incredible places.

Barbara Bush is a great fan and asked me for lunch at the White House. Driving up the avenue, I had a fit of the giggles. I did think it was ridiculous; I'm not the sort of person with an invitation, rather someone outside protesting about Vietnam. Everybody else would have worried about how they looked; my concern was whether I would know when to go.

Perhaps most important, my revelation on the park bench stopped me from putting on a literary style and gave me the courage to write about what I know. Many people of my age were affected by the dazzling novels of people such as Doris Lessing and Margaret Atwood, but being wary of affectation, I decided that if I could talk, I could write.

Please don't jump to the conclusion that I'm constantly delighted with myself. I don't want to be a mad eccentric like

Quentin Crisp – there are limits. I was walking through Selfridges one day, and saw two old hag ladies, with floppy open coats coming towards me. I thought: "How extraordinary. They are the spitting image of each other; they must be twins I wonder if they sleep together on the Embankment?"

So I started staring at them while they looked back at me. Suddenly I realised I was looking into a double mirror – it was me! Such a shock. I knew I had to smarten up. After I got rich, in 1963, I could afford to have clothes made for me. My instructions to dressmakers are always the same: no fittings, no discussions, no ironing. I like nice bright colours; it's stupid to wear navies, blacks and browns in the hope of blending into the background.

Sometimes I still glance in the mirror before going out and feel dreadful: "This dress does not fit me anywhere; it bunches up in the wrong place, I paid far too much money for the material." Two seconds later, I think: "Who cares?" Having been a teacher

for eight years, I think once a teacher, always a teacher. I'm always trying to improve people. Despite my own life being chaos, I know I can run everybody else's.

Sometimes, seeing 17-year-olds in agonies of self-consciousness, I'd love to tell them: "It doesn't matter, nobody is watching." But they wouldn't believe me.

Perhaps, instead, I put the message into my books. I was asked in France about my philosophy of life – it could happen nowhere else to a popular author.

I made something up quickly about its not mattering what hand you're dealt, but how you play it. However, after further thought today, I've realised that in my stories there are no make-overs: ugly ducklings do not become beautiful swans, just confident ducks.

Maevie Binchy's new book, *Turn Road*, is published by Orion, price £16.99

INTERVIEW BY ANDREW G MARSHALL

July 2012



# Listening between the lines

What do you gain from hearing authors reciting from their own work?  
Michael Glover contrasts the voices of poet Seamus Heaney and novelist Iain Banks as they speak for themselves.

As I descend the soft-carpeted stairs to the stalls of the Piccadilly Theatre a few snatches of conversation come at me from the air. "He's down there in the dressing room, resting, collecting himself," says a female Irish voice, somewhat hushed and reverential. "Oh, he has nerves, surely, but he keeps himself very, very silent before a reading."

Just then a great heave of high-cultured, high-toned people—publishers, poets, poetsasters, representatives of *The Times*, *The Times Literary Supplement*—sweep me down and into my seat none too delicately. It's hot and full down there in the stalls, and quite a few people are already straining their eyes to read from the same book (well, different copies of the same book): *Opened Ground* by Seamus Heaney, his collected poems of 30 years that he's here to read from. Seamus will be amongst us, fully rested, in a moment or two. Meanwhile, we admire the set for *Major Barbara*, against which the cattle-dealer's son will be obliged to read, a highly respectable drawing room scene—and there's his lecture, a funny, spindly gothic thing, plonked down on the edge of the carpet.

A tall, thin, nervy Waterstone's typesetters on next to remind us that Seamus is a man of huge significance, and indeed one of the greats of world literature, and that all proceed of the evening will be going to the Medical Foundation in support of their work amongst victims of torture throughout the world.

Then on he strides, the hugely significant man himself, broad of shoulder, square and ruddy of face, hair, brilliantly white as bleached, flattened straw, combed forward to

conceal a lack. This reading will be longer than the usual poetry reading, he tells us as he squares up the book on the lectern. After all, the event is associated with victims of torture. That glib gets an awkward guffaw or two, and then it's on to the poems, one from each of his books, from 1966 onwards.

The marvel of an evening with Heaney is that every word that he reads—and each one comes out slow and measured—is singled out for our particular attention, as if held up in the air to be judged and weighed by the voice that's speaking it, and then, with great and solemn care, handed over to the listener. And between every poem there is the commentary, the amusing aside, the scrupulous and incisive link between one poem and another, knitting the snippet of biography to the poetic act.

From the middle 1970s, for example, he reads us "A Constable Calls", which describes a familiar childhood experience of seeing a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary arriving on his bicycle at his father's farm to check the tillage returns. "I remember that baton of his," says Heaney, "so beautifully stitched..." He steps aside from the lectern and mimics that act of precision-stitching in the air with his fingers. "It was so fascinating and so scary—especially if you were called Seamus. Not so perhaps if you were a William. The problem was that my father was so inaccurate in his recollections of what was being grown on the farm. That terrified me..."

Heaney and his audience at the Piccadilly belong to the world of Radio Three. The novelist Iain Banks, who read at the British Library one rainy evening last week, writes to the accompaniment of

Radio One, and his audience is much more varied, much less self-consciously literary—there was the half-drowned kid in the baseball cap, for example, who bounced in on the balls of his feet and a couple of guys examining spread sheets on the front row. Could they be analysing some of his more fantastical plots?

Heaney has a single volume of fewer than 500 pages to show for a lifetime's endeavours as a poet. The feverishly prolific Banks writes one novel a year and has been doing so since *The Wasp Factory* was published in 1984. Heaney lives in perpetual fear that the gift of poetry will depart from him all of a sudden, and that he will be left with the cold comfort of silence. "Every poet is in a panic that it will stop," he told his audience. "You may be walking over the cliff at any moment." Listening to Iain Banks makes such a thought seem unimaginable. He just can't seem to stop the ideas coming.

Banks begins with a reading from *A Song of Stone*, his latest. Being this year's it must be what his publishers describe as "mainstream" rather than science fiction. He tends to alternate between the two.

He doesn't read too well. He seems all charged up, in too much of a hurry. Perhaps he's working out the plot of the next one as he reads this one. He stands just a little too far from the microphone as well, so that the occasional crucial link word is lost and all sense collapses in a heap.

Here is the gist of the story: there's been a break-down of society in the middle ages. The female lieutenant of a band of brigands is holed-up in a castle somewhere in the middle of nowhere—or perhaps I just foolishly just missed the name. It's the usual sort of 400-year-old castle—complete with gloomy paintings, tapestries—the sort of place where you

habitually enquire after ghosts. She does. She's smart, dangerous, thin-lipped and sassy, this lieutenant, with cold grey coals for eyes. She uses her cutlery with deadly dexterity. She taunts people. She yawns a lot. (Banks tells us afterwards that he likes strong women who don't take too much shit from men). Her companions are all called by their nicknames—so that they can re-invent themselves effortlessly like medieval existentialists. Here are some of their names: Death-Wish, Victim, Karmar, Love-God, Half-Cast, Fender... Fender? Could that be the microphone again?

The audience doesn't seem to mind too much. The crucial fact is that this Fifties phenomenon of amazing novelist productivity is with us.

Then Banks stops, and walks away from the microphone. He's much younger, nervier and faster moving than Heaney. He stands in the centre of the stage, shifting from foot to foot. He clips a tiny note to his shirt because he's not fond of staying still when he's beating off eager questions, he tells us, pulling a funny face and giggling.

After listening carefully to a couple of moments of intolerable silence, he shakes his head of tousled curls, grins with all his teeth and says, as if to remind all we wet dolls of our roles here: "Now you're going to be asking a lot of deeply penetrating questions, and getting a lot of shit in return..."

Seamus Heaney lolls against the gothic lectern of the Piccadilly Theatre, waiting for the next question. "What's your favourite colour?" shouts a female voice from the Gods. He squints up, disbelieving. "Green," he replies.



Seamus Heaney: 'Every word is singled out for our particular attention'

Philip Meech

## An eternal movement from zero hour

Sir Harrison Birtwistle's *Exodus* is the theme tune for the end of the millennium. It doesn't so much develop as evolve. Especially in Daniel Barenboim's capable hands. By Edward Seckerson

WITH EACH arrival comes a new departure, with each answer a new question, and with each ending a new beginning. Sir Harrison Birtwistle's tremendous orchestral essay *Exodus* ("23:59:59") begins in the vast empty space between the highest and lowest C naturals his orchestra can access, from violin harmonics and glissandos almost beyond the reach of hearing to string basses and electric piano on the bottom of the world. But it never truly ends, or indeed "arrives", but rather pauses, suspended on a single E natural as the digital display of your imagination finally clicks over from "23:59:59" to "24:00". It's the last midnight of the old millennium.

Thirty minutes of real time have elapsed in that one second. But what is a second in eternity? What is eternity but a never-ending journey? And so *Exodus* journeys unconstrained by time—real or imagined—until it stops (or doesn't, as the case may be). You may sense a resolution of sorts, but in fact there is none, because Birtwistle decided long ago that it was better to journey than to arrive. Whether active or inactive (and the tension between the two is one of the work's key features), *Exodus* is music in a perpetual state of exposition—meaning that it is forever revealing itself.

Many strands, many colours, many ideas—heard individually or as dense weaves of sound—give the score its imperative. There are haunting, melismatic solos for the winds of the orchestra, not least the "alien" saxophone (whose exotic, strangely insidious arabesques so characterise this composer); long-bowed lamentations in the strings are pitted against hyperactivity in the rest of the orchestra (fifty percussion suggesting the workings of some cosmic timepiece); sudden suspensions, like time-outs or cardiac arrests, freeze-frame the action. Because this is music that exists "in the moment", in the magnified split-second before nature's timepiece clicks over.

Birtwistle is very much a composer of our time, of our century, but in his lifelong rush to zero hour (whenever that may be) he drags a lot of history with him. His music is full of primitive and mythological resonance. It doesn't develop; it evolves. It isn't composed; it just is. At least, that's how it sounds. And it sounded very well in the capable hands of the orchestra and conductor that commissioned it: Daniel Barenboim and the Chicago Symphony.

The rest of their eagerly anticipated first Prom—namely Mahler's Fifth Symphony—was oddly dispiriting, as if our energy, and theirs, had already

### PROMS

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
ROYAL ALBERT HALL  
LONDON



Conductor Daniel Barenboim

been well spent. The whole performance seemed to come and go (mainly go) in strict accordance with Barenboim's own level of engagement. Sometimes he was there, sometimes not at all. Some of the playing was beautiful, articulate, some flaccid. As witness the quite shockingly sloppy attack, or rather lack of, into the second movement, marked, incidentally "with the greatest vehemence". Vehemence (as in those fierce Mahlerian contrasts) was not in the vocabulary of this performance. It was far too comfortable (sonically and spiritually) and self-satisfied; pat. The opening trumpet summons augured well with a blast from the past; a phantom bugler whose wide vibrato was very much from the old world. But the ensuing funeral march, whilst strident through with the appropriate klezmer band colours, was very much about appearances and not about feelings.

But this is a tale of two Barenboims and two orchestras. Their second Prom, on Friday, was another story. First there was *Till Eulenspiegel*—rogue, master prankster—ducking and diving through the orchestra, whistling Richard Strauss's while. Lightning reflexes, wry smiles, rude rubatos, and a scrawny E-flat clarinet grimly anticipating the noose tightening around his neck. The Mahler of

the previous night was already a faded memory, notwithstanding, of course, the spectral waltzes and militaristic marches and fatalistic hammer blows, the Mahlerian refractations of Alban Berg's sensational *Three Pieces for Orchestra*. Barenboim sought and found the heart of it—a cello solo lasting no more than a couple of bars. But its reach was a whole symphony's worth.

And so Barenboim was engaged, his musical authority (or should that be autonomy) possessed now of a deeper expression. You could hear it, feel it, almost touch it with the arrival of the great second subject of Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony. Just the way in which the first phrase was breathlessly anticipated, the way it bloomed and resonated. Very beautiful, very old school. As was the entire performance.

One could argue that the first movement development was too measured truly to unleash the furies (though bass trombone and tuba thrillingly marked out our descent to the abyss), that the finale's soulful *adagio lamentoso* was initially too rosy, but the artistry at work here was considerable, the Chicago strings investing everything in the kind of meaningful *sostenuto* you rarely hear outside Vienna or Berlin. And unlike his Mahler, Barenboim's Tchaikovsky didn't just tell us about Barenboim.

## Shaking a fist at God

### PROMS

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:  
BEETHOVEN, TIPPETT  
ROYAL ALBERT HALL  
LONDON

making for free expression.

Undoubtedly the most remarkable feature of Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* is the symbiotic relationship between the formality and concision of the recitatives, arias, and choruses—so closely modelled on Bach's *Passions*—and the highly emotive free-flow of the spirituals. "Crystal Night"—the advent of Jewish persecution—is concentrated into a terse fugal chorus of little more than a minute. But the response—the "spiritual of anger"—is "Go Down, Moses", an expansive, re-sounding setting in which all the world seems to find a voice. Davis and his forces—not least, of course, the splendidly open-throated London Symphony Chorus—flung wide the word like true believers. This is a piece where moments must be seized and simple truths communicated in an instant. Its directness of utterance is disarming. There is nowhere to hide.

None of these performers needed to. Tenor Jerry Hadley invested everything he sang with the fervent, in-your-face tone of the spirituals. That was something we as "a community", as opposed to an audience, could relate to. Likewise the plain-speaking bass of John Tomlinson. Nora Gubisch naturally proffered some throatily arresting mezzo colours, and from the moment the creamy, beautifully "covered" sound of soprano Deborah Riedel floated to a perfect high A in blissful anticipation of "Steal Away", it was clear that the spirit moved in her. It sure moved in Tippett. The final word of "Deep River", the final word of the piece, is "Lord", starkly, simply, intoned as a falling third: acceptance and an open question at one and the same time.

Great music transcends its form. Great Beethoven such as this communicates publicly what it once contemplated privately. Which is not to say that Davis's reading was short on contemplation. The long and serene slow movement—offspring of the Ninth Symphony's slow movement (which immediately precedes it)—is so much more than a theme and variations. It's about the evolution of ideas, it's about one idea becoming another. It's about strict form

EDWARD SECKERSON

## Music that made the world go round

PHILIP PICKETT's annual South Bank festival of Early Music was united this year by the theme of heavenly harmony and its close counter-subject of music and magic—clear box-office draws but much more than a marketing gimmick.

To the medieval mind, music offered a sounding measure of the world and the universe, its theory devised to prove the existence of the celestial sounds of the spheres, the muses and the company of angels. The musical discoveries of Pythagoras, embroidered by Plato and studied by Oxford music students until the middle of the last century, directly influenced composers from anonymous architects of plainsong to JS Bach and beyond, and was richly reflected in the symbolism of Shakespeare and Milton.

Besides playing and promoting ancient music, Pickett has made a feature of exploring what now appear esoteric, even bizarre, influences on its creation.

His "Heavenly Harmony" weekend encouraged audiences to consider the remarkably uniform theoretical and metaphysical backgrounds to countless works, composed before Copernicus redrafted the medieval world picture, and enlightened philosophers rejected the harmony of the spheres. Although pre-concert talks and programme book essays offered pathways into a long-defunct belief system, Pickett's challenge was to devise a programme of works that might do the same.

Handel may not be the most obvious candidate to open a mini-festival

### CLASSICAL

HEAVENLY HARMONY  
SOUTH BANK CENTRE  
LONDON

devoted to music's supernatural powers, but the plot of his opera *Orlando* is fuelled by the interventions of Zoroastro, a magician able to read the stars and alter destiny.

The Early Opera Company's production was a disappointment—safe in its risk-free delivery of Handel's score, underpinned by bland singing and a minimalist staging that involved the cast in fussy gymnastics with seven symbolic spheres and much slithering around a crescent-shaped impediment. Zoroastro, robustly but not passionately sung by

Matthew Hargreaves, appeared more like Michael Palin's Monty Python castaway than a plausible presiding genius, irritatingly amusing in floor-length dreadlocks and matted beard. Louise Mott sounded uncomfortable in the title-role, unable to make the most of her impressive mezzo tone in *Orlando*'s low-lying music and only coming to life in coloratura passages. Conversely, Geraldine McGreevy was well cast as Angelica but rarely willing or able to alter the colour if not the dynamic of her voice.

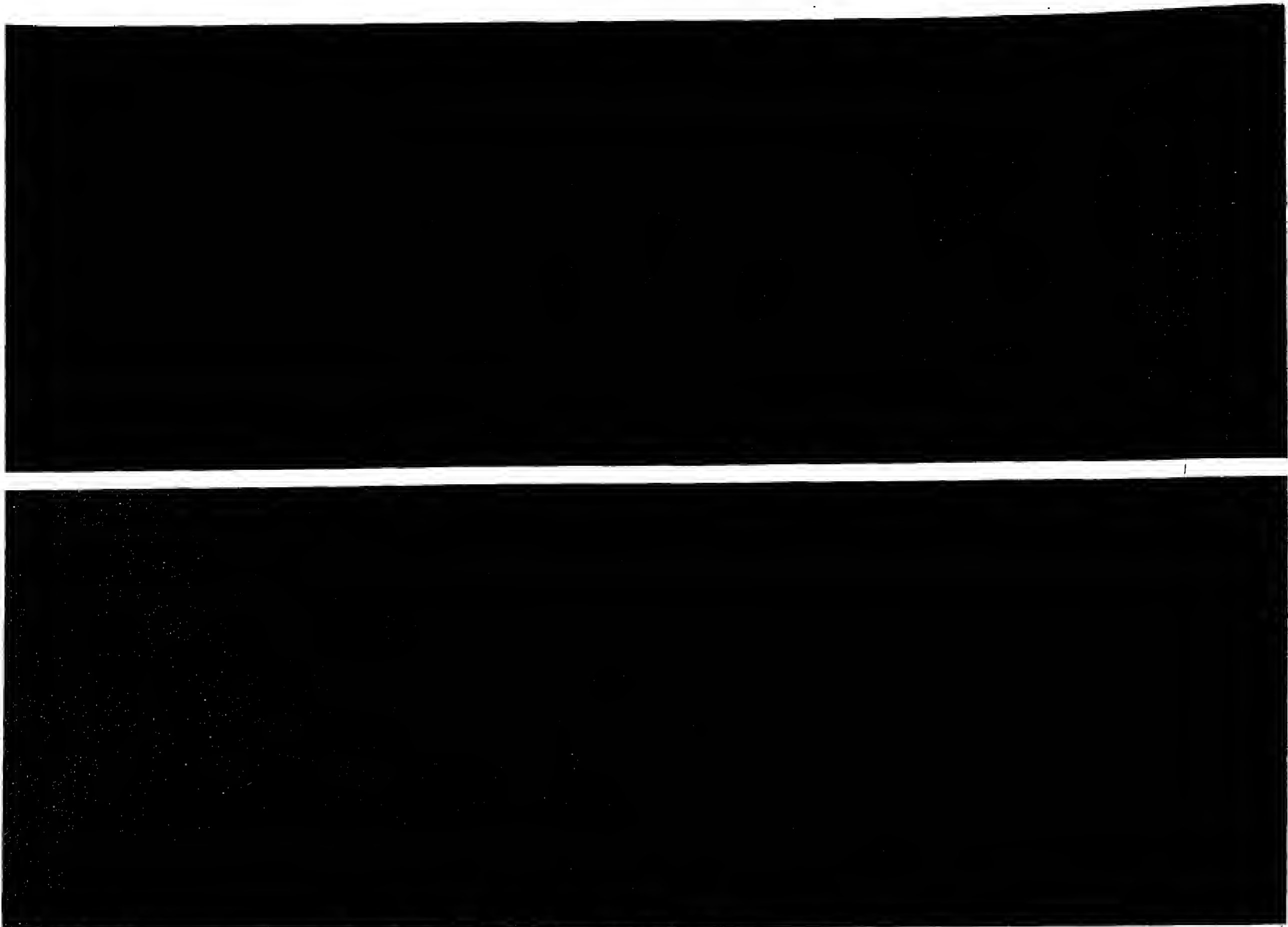
Earlier territories were explored with greater success by the Catalan gambist Jordi Savall and his ensemble Hesperion XX, and by the New London Consort, revisiting the visionary world of Gautier de Coincy's *Miracles de Notre-Dame* and

presenting a flawless, intensely moving, semi-staged account of the 13th-century cleric's work.

After a rather subdued look at dance works by Ortiz, the Hesperion XX programme turned to secular songs (or *tonos humanos*) by the priest, robber and serial murderer José María, expressively and seductively sung by Savall's wife, Montserrat Figueras, and given irresistible spirit by the flamenco-style improvisations of guitarist Rolf Lislevand and Adela González-Campa's articulate castanets. Here were the fruits of a group that gets to know its repertoire, lives with it for months in rehearsal and then enjoys the business of performing it.

ANDREW STEWART





'Descent' of the River Taw, unique Cibachrome, 12ft by 2ft, 1998; below, 'Spawns', 1992, unique Cibachrome photograph, 16in by 12in

Michael-Hue Williams Fine Art

# The secret life of the riverbed

From a distance, it looks like an old Second World War aerial photograph. Heavy lines mark out the roads. Those boxes, one after another, are houses on an estate. The blurred grey stuff – they are trees. But this is not something from Photographic Intelligence – it is a photograph of ice. As you get closer, you can trace the giant stress cracks, the tiny tendrils and the swirling ebb and flow of the river Taw, now caught frozen until spring comes.

Susan Derges has been working with water for seven years. She captures its ebb and flow in photographs – one of the earliest forms of photography using a method of taking a picture that doesn't involve a camera or a lens. With photographs, light sensitive paper is placed under the subject and a flash exposes its image onto the paper. "There was so much baggage and theory with camera-based photography, I wanted to simplify it and make the connection between image and subject as close as possible," says Derges, who has been making photographs since 1981 when she captured sound waves by placing a sound generator under light sensitive paper on top of which was a scattering of powder. The image made showed the "very beautiful organic patterns" sound can make.

The idea to work with water came to Derges after she moved to Dartmoor. But prior to this, she had lived and worked in Tokyo for five years. She went there as an artist, a graduate of the Chelsea and then the Slade School of Art, but in Tokyo the pace of life "made my art seem very inappropriate". Derges' art then was abstract and very labour intensive but, finally,

enough, looked not dissimilar to her "river prints" of today. Back from Japan, Derges set up again in London and continued her work capturing "liquid" processes such as sound and also mercury.

In the early Nineties, she moved to the West Country. "When I moved to Dartmoor, what I had been setting up in my studio was suddenly on my doorstep – rivers, water, constant flux and change." And frogspawn, which Derges happened upon one morning. With the sun shining onto the pond, the spawn made shadows on the pond bed. Derges took some spawn back to her studio and did a whole set of photograph prints chronicling the metamorphosis of the spawn into frogs, called *Full Circle*. The water prints soon followed.

"The first time I worked with water was using a brook near where I live. I thought it would be possible to just lie the paper in the water, but of course it floated to the surface," explains Derges. So she made light boxes out of sheets of aluminum, attached the light sensitive paper (Cibachrome, so it makes a positive negative) to the bottom sheet of aluminum with double-sided tape – the paper gets wet in the process – and then fixed a lid on top to protect the paper from light until exposure.

Then, after making intensive recesses, Derges, either alone or with helpers (the prints are life-sized and some are over 20 foot long), goes to the water's edge, removes the lids and submerges the weighted paper. This must be done at night and thus effectively the environment becomes her dark room.

Once the paper is in place, Derges must work fairly quickly. When she feels the moment is right, the flash is let off and the

Susan Derges' photographs capture the exquisite organic patterns of water. By Annalisa Barbieri

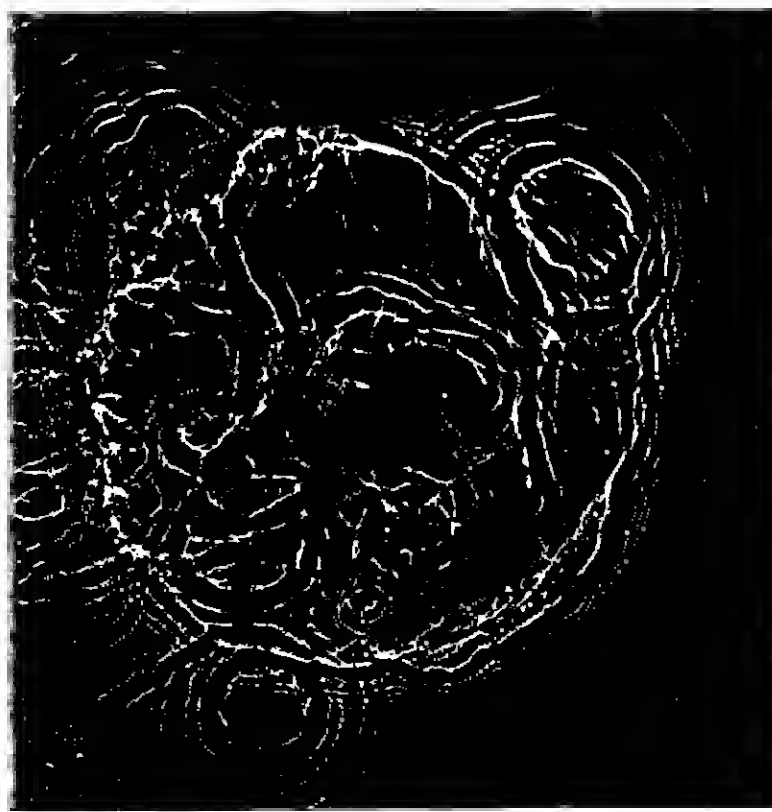


image is made. The ripples of water, any leaves either floating by or overhanging (no fish since they will have long been spooked) and other river bed debris will have been captured.

Many things are fascinating about this process. Because the image is life-sized, you get a real sense of the force of the water, of being there. This is further reinforced since the image is taken under water. It is a unique view of the water. Derges is keen on this. It is "as close as you could get to lying under the water yourself". Because each stretch of river is unique, each print becomes like an identifying fingerprint but a unique one that can never be repeated. The phases of the moon also affect the final print. One, called *Waterfall* and taken on a full moon, is an intense aquamarine colour. With *Shore Line*, a giant 24ft by 3ft print taken during a half moon, the magenta edges of the incoming surf were created by the "interference" of street lights reflecting on the water.

When the river prints were first exhibited, they followed the river Taw from its source on north Dartmoor to the sea and with it, the cyclical change of seasons. Hence the ice print when parts of the river were frozen, to a full flowing spring river. Now, some prints have been added, some taken away as Derges' work constantly evolves.

From the 19 Sept to the 24 Oct will be the very last chance to see the river and shore line prints (shown along with the frogspawn collection) in this country. After that, these magical, hypnotic prints will travel to the Fraenkel Gallery in San Francisco and then the James Dan Ziger Gallery in New York. The work going to

America will have evolved again this time showing a year in the life of not only the river Taw but also the trees, whose foliage – from barren to leafy – and roots, interact with it.

Derges' prints will probably never make it back here. With each exhibition, the prints are bought by collectors. Unique, serene and beautiful ("I always feel my photographic work is like painting with light"), it's funny to think of bits of a humble Dartmoor river hanging on walls all over the world.

But if you don't make it to the exhibition in Cornwall, the Victoria & Albert museum has bought the dazzling sky-blue and lilac *Waterfall* print which will be shown in the Canon Photography Gallery in an exhibition entitled *Silver and Syrup*. "Susan's pictures are breathtaking," says the V&A's assistant curator of photography, Charlotte Cotton, who chose the print. "She uses photography to display the quality of water which is not visible to the naked eye and creates a new and exciting vocabulary for the medium of photography whilst calling to mind the earliest photographic processes and motivations of the 1840s. I can vividly remember every exhibition of Susan's work that I have ever been to – I can remember how I felt in the presence of her images more than anything else."

Susan Derges' 'River Taw' exhibition will be shown at the Newlyn Art Gallery, New Road, Newlyn, Penzance, Cornwall from 19 September – 24 October 1998. Tel: 01736 363715. The 'Silver and Syrup' exhibition at the Canon Photography Gallery, Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 will run from 26 November 1998 to 12 April 1999.

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## Concrete words and earthy images

LITTLE SPARTA, the garden built by the poet Ian Hamilton Finlay in the Pentlands Hills some 30 miles south west of Edinburgh, is one of the great art works of the late 20th century and, I'd argue, one of the greatest works of art ever made on Scottish soil. Certainly, it's the greatest ever made of Scottish soil – the realisation of one man's vision of a classical garden in the midst of an untamed land. Rather an eccentric vision, or, as Finlay has put it, a vision "which was absolutely absurd considering this was just a moorland and I had only a spade". Work began in 1966, when Finlay and his wife Sue first took

on the shepherd's cottage that is now his home, and has continued ever since. Constantly evolving and growing, as gardens do, and prompting all sorts of now legendary battles between Finlay and Strathclyde Region over the nature (or as they saw it, the rateable value) of the garden buildings.

These days, Little Sparta stands as testament to one of the most original and creative minds to have emerged in this country since the Second World War, but for a variety of complicated reasons, it can't readily be seen by the public. So, the Scottish National Portrait Gallery's exhibition of Robert

LITTLE SPARTA  
SCOTTISH NATIONAL  
PORTRAIT GALLERY

Gillender's photographs is to be warmly welcomed, for it is as close to the garden as most folk are likely to get. And without the garden, I don't think that one can really begin to understand what Finlay is about.

Gillender's photographs are not, however, simply a record of Finlay's achievements. They are in themselves very beautiful images: the best landscape photography, thoughtful and, in every sense of the word, composed. Together, they add up to a portrait of a man and his

work made over several years and many visits, and one which shares both Finlay's sense of humour and sadness.

These moods crop up on you in the garden and in Gillender's portrait. Sometimes, like his aircraft carrier bird table, making a joke: turning the swallows into fighter jets. Sometimes suggesting a more sombre thought such as that met at the end of the garden by a small headstone, elegantly lettered with a single word – *Fragile* – a reminder of the nature of things with the bare moorland beyond.

Finlay first made his name at the forefront of the concrete poetry movement in the early

1960s and still describes himself firstly as a poet. Certainly, a search for poetic expression is at the heart of all that he does; that and the all-important place of man in relation to nature – the necessary imposition of order on chaos and the battle that ensues. All of this is central to his work. All of it feeds back to his work at Little Sparta. The show at the Portrait Gallery is accompanied by a series of Finlay's "detached sentences". One of them, "Certain gardens are described as retreats when they are really attacks", reads like a coda for his life's work. Until 29 November

RICHARD NGILEBY

July 20 1998



# There's no place like home

Pieter de Hooch was a 17th-century artist who turned his sharp eye on to the homely, humdrum life of the household and the tavern and bathed it in a light so sympathetic that his pictures have an almost religious quality. By Tom Lubbock

**N**OT A lot is known. He lived from 1629 to 1684. His father was a bricklayer. He worked in Delft and Amsterdam. He never made much. He married and had seven children. He spent his last years in a madhouse. Nowadays, about 170 paintings are assigned to his name. Don't say it like "smooch", say it like "croak". Pieter de Hooch.

The 40 paintings now gathered from around the world at the Dulwich Picture Gallery are billed as de Hooch's first ever one-man show, which, if true, suggests curatorial mischance more than anything else. De Hooch has never been a neglected artist, and he's hardly obscure. His works star in any round-up of Dutch 17th-century art; he's the great homebody of the Golden Age. Still, shown in quantity, they make a revelation.

The earliest pictures here, from his early twenties, are hearty drinking scenes. They feature the sort of characters who, in a Larkin poem, get called Jan van Hogspeuw and Dirk Dogstoerd. They go "cheers, mate" to the viewer - but the modern viewer can't easily return the compliment. They seldom seem funny or fun. In fact, de Hooch doesn't have his heart in it. His versions aren't very rude or dissolute. And after a while things quieten down and smarten up further, and you start to think of Vermeer.

Vermeer is the obvious comparison throughout, the more famous artist whose work de Hooch's can best be defined against. De Hooch's scenes are always less still, less enclosed, less mesmeric. A picture such as *A Merry Company with Two Men and Two Women* - you might call it Vermeer between takes. It has Vermeer's intense single light source, but not his intense human encounter. The poses have been dropped, people relax, the protagonists flirt and drink at their ease. Well, it's natural to do the comparison that way, but probably it was de Hooch, the slightly older artist, who inspired Vermeer. You're looking at the kind of scene Vermeer realised he could do something with.

But in the Delft years, de Hooch was an innovator. He made the home, the Dutch bourgeois household, its front rooms and back yards, a subject of new importance. In the yard scenes, what's exciting is the sense of something like social realism, or reportage: a servant crosses a courtyard carrying a jug and a bucket, averting her eyes from the shaft of sun that hits her face; a woman lays out bleached linen on the ground. These feel like slices of daily life, snapshots from the past. Indeed, they look quite like photographs. On the other hand, they're moral subjects too. What are they about? Cleaning.

Whatever activity they depict, you might call all de Hooch's domestic scenes advertisements for housework, ideal home exhibitions. Or you might elevate this, and call them lessons in domestic virtue - which, of course, means female virtue. His protagonists are almost always women: the housewife and her servants, often with children, often nursing mothers. And if we, in our turn, are going to moralise on these pictures, we may feel torn. They have very clear and strict ideas about a woman's place. But they are also sympathetically woman-centred, and they exalt these fairly humble homes into holy places, baffled in an Annunciation light.

Light is de Hooch's forte. He sees how light scatters and bounces, how it gets everywhere - raking the grain of a wooden door, sparkling off ceramic floor tiles, bending through glass, striking a reflective gleam off



'A Mother and Child with its Head on her Lap', oil on canvas, by Pieter de Hooch

Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

objects apparently in darkness. Look at the picture called *The Bedroom*. These rooms are echo-chambers for the day, and, of course, with its more than virtuous effect it makes equations. Sunlight is the good housewife's friend, the bad one's foe, showing off the shine of scrubbed and polished surfaces, showing up its absence. Cleanliness is next to godliness, a symbol of spiritual purity. Light is divine.

It's not just light that de Hooch delivers so brilliantly, but also an overall sense of lucidity. The spaces of his rooms - he makes them felt as cubic volumes, contained by planes in three dimensions. Their inhabitants - people, furniture, propped brooms, animals - stand on the checker-board floors as space-markers, with tangible space around them. He makes parts felt, too. The scenes have a texture of construction; they stress bits, brickwork,

floor tiles, wall tiles, shutters, panes, components fitted together as if from a kit, which also form beautiful patterns: a place for everything, everything in its place, everything right and clear.

His work can strike a modernist note. These arrangements of flat-on-rectangles - doorways, windows, bed-frames, pictures-on-walls - make de Hooch look like the ancestor of de Stijl, Mondrian and Co. See, for instance, the painted wooden shutter that swings in on the left of *Courtyard in Delft*, a grabitious, pure-form flag of scarlet. But this emphasis overlooks de Hooch's equally insistent receding perspectives, which draw the eye so often through an open doorway into the room beyond.

These glimpses are de Hooch's most piercing trick. (And *A Mother and Child with its Head on her Lap* is probably its most wonderful example). The room in the foreground

is usually quite shady. The room we see through into is filled with light - and filled also with promise. The device feels very deep, I think because it taps into early feelings about the bigness of the world opening out beyond our vision; it's not surprising that Proust gives it a mention. To compare the painter with a very different contemporary, in these glimpses de Hooch creates "yonders" as powerful as the eye-losing distances in the landscapes of Claude Lorrain. But at the same time it's an absolutely everyday magic, child's play. The promised land is just the room next door.

The spatial drama is so strong that you almost wish the human beings away. De Hooch's people are certainly hit and miss - sometimes there's very finely observed adult-child body-language, with a youngster impatiently tugging the arm of a grown-up who's still talking to

someone, sometimes they're pretty wooden. You do need the people, though. Empty rooms would become uncanny; you'd start to think of unseen things lurking, and that would be wrong.

But one reason the later work done in Amsterdam strikes less strongly than the earlier work is that it's more people-heavy, more focused on human dramas. The world also gets posher, the compositions more formal, and in a sense messier - you feel there are things that the Delft housewives would have swiftly tidied up. But in fact, it's just that the lighting is more dingy.

There are some spectacular set-pieces from this period. The textures are opulent. In *The Interior of the Burgomasters' Council Chamber in the Amsterdam Town Hall* with Visitors, the people stand grandly around the floor like pieces in a game of human chess, while above them

a vast swag of scarlet curtain hangs in top left, occupying a whole quarter of the picture surface. But what has been lost is the luminous and perspicuous revelation of space and construction.

Every paragraph above might have had in it somewhere the phrase "unlike Vermeer". But one last general comparison may be some use. Vermeer was once called the Sphinx of Delft. He offered a double mystery. Little was known of his life, while the enigma of his art - so charged, but so reserved - made it natural to seek an answer in his psyche (and people have made big meals out of any tit-bit of personal information that does turn up). But no one would call de Hooch a sphinx. His life is equally obscure, but this doesn't feel like a lack. It feels fine. It's hard to be at all interested in his personality. His works don't show attitude, and they don't offer the sort of intensity that

makes you want to go soul-searching, either.

The clincher is the madhouse business. There is only the bare record of a fact. But with so many artists, it's a fact we would try to make something of. We'd eagerly spot symptoms. A madman story like that would be bound, somehow, to affect our view of their work (and with one Dutch artist, of course, it's been known to take over completely). But with de Hooch, there is nothing for the story to get a purchase on. There is no sign of anything like madness or excess psychic pressure. There is wonder, but no mystery. His vision is transparent. He makes the world clear.

Pieter de Hooch: Dulwich Picture Gallery, College Road, London SE21, until 15 November. Closed Mondays. Admission: £5, concessions £2.50

## THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING MODERN ART: BARRY MICKLEBURGH

FOR UP to six hours at a time, Barry Mickleburgh lies on an army sleeping-bag in fields, among crows, rooks and magpies. They look at him, and he looks at them, sketching them in pencil. The result is a series of oil paintings, *Corvidae*, (Latin for the crow family), showing episodes from their everyday lives.

He has watched crows, his favourites, give each other gifts of titbits in a polite manner befitting their black formal dress. They have a sense of decorum that is rather British. In his painting *Signpost*, shown here, a fourth crow is landing on a wonky signpost, much to the consternation of the three who got there first. The newcomer looks away nonchalantly, pretending he has a right to be there. Two of the others, disgruntled,

glare at him. The fourth does not want to get involved; he prepares to take off before the signpost collapses.

Mickleburgh, who lives in a 16th-century farmhouse in Norfolk, is aged 46, but began painting only five years ago. His meticulously detailed, velvety-textured paintings fetch between £250 and £4,000. He has more commissions from America than he can cope with, and is being shown next month at Gallery 27, Cork Street, West London, and until 16 September in a Christie's exhibition - organised by the Arts Dyslexia Trust.

For most of his life, Mickleburgh did not know he was dyslexic. He worked as a carpenter until he was injured in a motorbike accident 11 years ago. Still in plaster, he enrolled on a



GCSE course at Norwich City College. It was there that his difficulty in taking notes from the blackboard led to his being diagnosed

dyslexic. Before that, he thought of himself as being not very intelligent, or even backward. But he went on to do a degree course in fine art at Norwich School of Art, where, in his final year, he started painting.

Dyslexics learn in a way that is different from that of people who get information from the printed word. Mickleburgh says: "If you've never read a book, you have to formulate your own thoughts and opinions from what goes on around you. Dyslexics often appear odd because they have individually formed ideas. Also, as we have to deceive in order to hide our disability, we tend to be less sociable."

"Perhaps that's why I can't tell if someone is being pleasant or unpleasant to me. To try to find out, I read people's eyes. So I have an advantage when I look at the expressions of creatures - especially ones I can make eye contact with."

That is the link between

his dyslexia and his painting. If you look into the eyes of Mickleburgh's crows you can get a glimpse of the extraordinary sensitivity that can develop in people from beyond the Gutenberg Galaxy.

"Sometimes," says Mickleburgh, "I feel like a throw-back to the time when we were hunters and gatherers. If I were an aborigine, I think I'd rather well. To be honest, I like being dyslexic."

The Arts Dyslexia Trust exhibition of art by dyslexic people is at Christie's, Ryder Street, London SW1, until 16 September. Christie's (0171-339 9060). Arts Dyslexia Trust (01303-313221). Fifteen paintings by Mickleburgh will be shown at Gallery 27, 27 Cork Street, London W1, 5-10 October (0181-675 8110).



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## HEALTH

Jealousy is not just a state of mind or an affair of the heart. It's now classed as a treatable medical condition. By Roger Dobson

# The worst threat is your own mind

Until two years ago, Richard's marriage had been blissfully happy. Then, one summer, he was unexpectedly made redundant from his job in marketing. His wife went back to work as a result and at this point he became convinced that she was being unfaithful.

He followed her, checked the mileage on the car, listened in on her telephone conversations, quizzed her about her outings, opened her mail, insisted on meeting her from work and finally refused to believe that she was and always had been faithful to him.

The final straw came after he had spent several hours of a rainy night sitting in the bushes outside his own home, believing his wife was inside with her lover, only to discover that her mother had made a surprise visit. It was only then that he fully appreciated what was happening to him, and sought treatment for his pathological jealousy.

According to Freud, jealousy is its milder forms is universal and inevitable. Its roots, he suggested, are in our childhood traumas and the inevitable Oedipal conflict, and if we don't experience jealousy when a relationship is under threat, then there is actually something wrong with us.

But it is when jealousy turns into pathological jealousy, or the Othello syndrome as it is now called, that problems begin to surface and treatment becomes necessary.

Increasing numbers of people are seeking medical and psychological help for their jealousy, and contributing factors are thought to include the rate of marital breakdowns and the rising number of working women, some of whom are unable of coping with "losing" their partner.

New research also suggests that more people may also be seeking treatment because today there is less tolerance of jealousy, which has more and more come to be identified with lack of trust and stalking

than with any real notion of romance or love.

As an emotion, jealousy is thought to originate during Freud's Oedipal state at the age of two to three years old. According to the founder of psychoanalysis, it is during this stage that we experience our first stirrings of sexuality, and these urges are directed at the closest person of the opposite sex, mum or dad.

But, the theory continues, the young toddler inevitably loses out and when in later life there is a threat to another relationship, the painful wound is reopened and experienced as jealousy.

For the majority of people, jealousy is a normal, healthy reaction that can actually improve relationships. For many others, it is an obsessive, irrational and often unfounded fear, where depression and anger can be triggered by an innocuous event such as a telephone caller who hangs up when they answer the phone.

"Jealousy is a response to a perceived threat to a valued relationship," says Dr Ayala Pines, author of *A Romantic Jealousy: causes, symptoms and cures*, which is published this week. "Although jealousy occurs in different forms and in varying degrees of intensity, it always results from an interaction between a certain predisposition and a particular triggering event."

Predispositions to jealousy vary widely between individuals. For someone with a high predisposition, a triggering event can be as minor as a partner's glance at an attractive stranger passing by. For most people, however, the trigger for intense jealousy is a much more serious event, such as the discovery of an illicit affair. For others, the trigger can be imagined.

Dr Pines points out that there have been cultural changes in perceptions of jealousy: "Until the 1960s, the message was that a certain amount of jealousy was natural, a proof of love and good for the marriage. Women were told to avoid



Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable try to keep their emotions in check in 'Gone with the Wind'

situations that might make their husband jealous, but to interpret their expressions of jealousy as evidence of love.

"But around 1970, a new view of jealousy started to take root. This emerging view was that jealousy was not natural. Jealousy was no longer seen as a proof of love, but evidence of a defect such as low self-esteem or the inability to trust."

It's when jealousy gets out of hand that treatment is needed quickly. It is one of the most powerful emotions and can lead to violence, murder and suicide. It can also damage physical and mental health, and ruin relationships.

"Jealousy can quickly become problematical and pathological," according to Professor Petruska Clarkson, a psychologist who deals with cases of jealousy at her London practice. "It is based on insecurity and a low self-esteem. Then it can take the form of wanting to

possess the partner, restricting their liberty or controlling their behaviour which rapidly becomes self-defeating.

"The most common cure is to value yourself more and to learn to find love, and also to value people who freely love you and prefer to be with you. When jealousy has become pathological, professional counselling should be sought because it can become a life-threatening disease at the emotional level and interfere with all aspects of life."

Stressful life events such as job loss, death of a parent and ill health, can act as triggering events for pathological jealousy and some people, such as those whose self-esteem is low or who have a generally more suspicious nature, may be more easily triggered.

Individual reactions to jealousy vary enormously. In her research, Dr Pines found that 7 per cent of

partners, both men and women, resorted to violence, and 30 per cent said they left the relationship. Forty two per cent said they fully accepted the situation.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, people with paranoid personality disorders may experience pathological jealousy. "They often suspect that their spouse or partner is unfaithful without any adequate justification. They may gather trivial and circumstantial evidence to support their beliefs. They may want to maintain complete control of intimate relationships to avoid being betrayed."

There is a range of different therapies for treating unwanted or uncontrollable jealousy, including couple counselling, hypnosis, behaviour dampening drugs, antidepressants, behaviour therapy and psychoanalysis.

When a patient's jealousy has been triggered by an identifiable event, such as a partner talking to another man/woman at a party or a partner going to work for the first time, that can be tackled with a programme of desensitisation to these cues using behavioural therapy techniques.

In this exposure and response approach, the patient is exposed to cues which provoke these jealousy-related behaviours, and then agrees that for a period of time they will refrain from that behaviour. Anger control therapy is also used for those who suffer pathological jealousy, as well as assertion training for their partners.

In implosion therapy, the patient is taught to imagine his or her worst fear again and again so that the real fear reduces. In Dutch Cow Therapy - so called because the telephone takes the place of the bells worn by cows to let their owner

know where they are - the guilty but contrite partner agrees to ring home every hour. In Pretend Therapy, the non-jealous partner is helped to look at the world through the eyes of the wife/husband.

If the therapy or drug treatment is successful, jealousy should be controllable. In some cases it may well disappear altogether, and in a very small number of instances it just might turn into pathological tolerance.

This rare condition, which is also known as psychological scotoma, is where the sufferer has a total inability to recognise jealousy triggers that are completely obvious to everyone else. Now, if only Desdemona could have married someone like that...

*A Romantic Jealousy: causes, symptoms and cures*, by Ayala Malach Pines is published by Routledge on Friday, £12.99

## JUST A JEALOUS GUIDE ...

### Top 10 reasons for jealousy

1. Personal insecurity
2. Fear of losing face
3. Fear of being excluded
4. Threat to privacy of intimate relationship
5. Competitiveness
6. Feelings of inadequacy
7. Fear of losing control
8. Fear of loss

How much jealousy based on a scale of one to seven would you experience if your partner:

1. Announced they had fallen in love and was thinking of leaving you
2. Had a serious long term affair
3. Had an affair but was open about it and said it was caused by a need for variety and would not affect your relationship
4. Recently had a one night stand
5. Had a relationship many years ago before you met
6. Had an affair many years ago after you had met
7. Had an affair many years ago after you had met and with someone who is now dead
8. Had a relationship many years ago before you met with someone who is now dead

0 to 16: Unbelievably trusting  
16 to 28: Mildly jealous  
29 to 36: Moderately jealous  
37 to 53: Green-eyed monster is looming  
44 to 48: See a doctor

# Your surgery is so cosmetic, man

Men are being lead by the nose to plastic surgeons. Lynne Eaton smells a rat

FASHION-CONSCIOUS men are becoming more discerning in their aesthetic and cosmetic tastes, it seems. "Jamie Theakston is very popular with the chaps right now. His nose is masculine, well defined with a strong bridge," Mel Braham, a plastic surgeon, enthused to one newspaper last week.

Perhaps. Whatever men are hoping to achieve from cosmetic surgery, whether a better love life or a better paid job, they are rapidly catching up with women in realising the enormous potential of the scalpel. According to the Harley Medical Group, one of the country's leading cosmetic surgery clinics, around 40 per cent of procedures are now performed on men. Five years ago, it was only 18 per cent.

The biggest rise in male surgery is in liposuction, says Peter Coles, director of the group. "More and more men are increasingly confident in turning towards cosmetic surgery to help them achieve the look that they desire."

Last year, the group's main male cosmetic surgery procedures were rhinoplasty (nose jobs) at 21.5 per cent, liposuction at 9 per cent, otoplasty (reducing size of or pinning back ears), 16 per cent, laser surgery (to improve skin texture), 10 per cent, and laser assisted uvula palatoplasty (Laup) to stop snoring, 10 per cent.

You can even go for penis enlargement - both length and girth. A piece of tissue inside the body called the suspensory ligament is cut, allowing more of the penis to fall outside the body cavity. Fat extracted from the inner thighs can also be deposited along the shaft to thicken the penis.

"A lot has got to do with the advent of many more quality men's magazines," Mr Coles admits. "They will read avidly about ways to make themselves attractive. Half of it is to improve their appearance, the other to improve their sex life."

Dai Davis, a consultant plastic surgeon at Charing Cross Hospital, London, who also works privately at Stamford Hospital in Hammersmith,



TOTP presenter Jamie Theakston has the nose many want to copy

believes the increase in male cosmetic surgery may be simply because "More and more people have more disposable wealth. Chaps with ears that stick out or people with big noses are much more likely to spend a couple of thousand pounds."

Although gay men, who have tended to be more body-conscious than most, do have cosmetic surgery (removal of facial hair is particularly popular), most of the men at the Harley Medical Group clinics are straight, says Mr Coles.

"They are just Mr Average. Their tummy sticks out, or their penis is too small. They don't look a freak, but they think they do." One patient, in his forties, had been troubled all

his life about his large ears: "He was a very pleasant man, who came to the clinic with his wife. He had long hair, which looked odd at that age. It turned out that when he was young, he was teased because his ears stuck out, and had deliberately grown his hair long to hide them."

"When I told him we would be able to help, he just burst into tears. He was just so relieved that he wouldn't have to worry any more."

But buying an "off-the-shelf" nose, like the "Theak beak", is as frowned upon by cosmetic surgeons as much as asking for a Rachel (from Friends) hair cut is, by a hairdresser.

"We understand that people tend to identify with famous figures," says Mr Coles. "We have to be careful to say that though we will try to make it look like that person, that doesn't mean that you are definitely going to look like them."

While women worry about "cellulite", beer guts are one of men's biggest worries. Christopher Douglas, 26, was 6ft 2in tall, and weighed in at 17 stone when he went for liposuction back in February.

"I had this beer belly and big fat thighs," says Christopher. "It was quite embarrassing on the beach, or changing for sport. I had dieted, got lots of exercise, and had even given up drinking. But it was having no effect."

"As I was reading through the magazines, liposuction caught my eye. It was extremely expensive £2,500 - but I had inherited some money, so I decided to go for it. Friends laughed at first, but then agreed with me. Men are much more vain and self-conscious than they used to be."

"It wasn't painful, just uncomfortable," he says. "They don't take that much off - only half a stone. But there was a difference straight away. I could get into trousers that had been bursting at the seams."

"I've really gained a lot of confidence. I'm not embarrassed chatting up girls."

"And, yes," he admits. "My love life has improved."

For further information, contact the British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, who will send a list of members if you send them a large size: 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PN (0171-405 2234).

To find out whether a surgeon is qualified in plastic surgery, contact the General Medical Council (0171-580 7421). The British Association of Cosmetic Surgeons (0171-323 5728) tends to represent surgeons in private clinics who may not be qualified plastic surgeons. The Harley Medical Group runs a helpline on cosmetic surgery: 0870 603 4444

# False hope is no hope

PREPARE TO shed a tear for Dr Luigi Di Bella. He, you may remember, is the Italian physiologist with the "miracle cure" for cancer who numbers the Pope among his tens of thousands of supporters. So great, in fact, was the demand for his drug cocktail known as MDB, that the Italian government dropped its opposition to the treatment and agreed to sponsor trials.

Here was Di Bella's chance to prove himself. An international commission led by Professor Gordon McVie, director of the UK Cancer Research Campaign, oversaw nine separate trials around Italy. Initial results from four of them showed that not one of the 136 patients who volunteered for the tests showed any signs of recovery.

It was a bit of a setback for Dr Di Bella, you might have thought. Possibly even a fatal blow for his "gentler, non-toxic and more humane" treatment, offered as an alternative to chemotherapy. But no. Dr Di Bella plans to sue the doctors who conducted the trials, claiming that they mixed the cocktail in the wrong proportions. That he persistently refused to divulge the exact composition of his cure, which is based on the

## HEALTH CHECK



JEREMY LAURANCE

growth hormone somatostatin, appears to have temporarily slipped the 86-year-old Di Bella's mind.

On Thursday, a book celebrating Di Bella's life and work is published which claims to reveal the "essence of this extraordinary man and why his cure represents a hope for humanity". There is certainly a book to be written about this extraordinary episode. How did a humble lecturer from the University of Modena, who taught physiology courses to students of natural sciences, biology and pharmacology from after the war until his retirement in 1984, become

one of the most sought-after cancer "doctors" in Europe?

Unsurprisingly, this book is not it. It claims that the doctors who investigated the treatment are part of a conspiracy - the simplicity and low cost of this treatment represents a threat to the medical establishment.

Professor McVie begs to differ. He says Dr Di Bella was consulted at great length before the trials and signed a document to say that he agreed with their design. Professor McVie also made a curious discovery. "We went through his case notes and he had treated 3,000 patients, 1,500 of whom didn't have cancer at all. Of the remaining 1,500, four showed evidence of improvement, but they had also had other treatment."

This book plays to the millions of people who want to believe in miracles, and long for the doomy doctors to be proved wrong. Dr Di Bella continues spreading his misguided message and publishers are happy to help him. There is only one thing worse than spreading false hope - and that is doing it again and again.

*Di Bella - The Man, The Cure, a Hope for All*, by Vincenzo Brancatano: Quartet Books, £7

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July 2015



# Pipe and slippers? Pass me my running shoes

We're all living longer. But will we have the mental powers to actually enjoy our later years of leisure?

By Annabel Ferriman

**S**eventy-one-year-old Barbara MacArthur, who loathes all physical exercise, was tested on her mental and physical powers in an experiment on ageing last week. Unfortunately for the organisers, who wanted to show the importance of exercise in preserving strength, Mrs MacArthur emerged with flying colours.

"They said that I had the grip of a 17-year-old," says Mrs MacArthur, who lives in Cathays, Cardiff, and who is starting a full-time course in computing and mathematics in autumn. "Yet I eat all the wrong things and look the other way when exercise is mentioned. But it seems that I have done a lot of the right things unwittingly."

"I walk everywhere because I am too bored to wait for a bus, and have always carried heavy shopping and moved furniture, because I separated from my husband before my son was born 44 years ago, and had to cope alone. I also looked after my elderly parents for 16 years," she adds.

Mrs MacArthur was one of 200 people who took part in the experiment, run by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and

that she is entering the "third age" in much better shape than her parents did. Her healthy condition bears out the latest research, which suggests that we are not just living longer, but staying healthy longer. A new generation, not of grey panthers, but of grey cheetahs, is emerging.

The General Household Survey of 1996 showed that the proportion of elderly people who could not get about alone or manage household tasks had remained broadly constant since 1980, despite the ageing of the population. One-tenth say that they cannot walk down the road or get up and down stairs alone, and 16 per cent say they cannot do their own shopping.

Professor Tom Kirkwood, professor of biological gerontology at the University of Manchester, will discuss the reasons for this at tomorrow's conference. "Evidence suggests that people are reaching 85 in much better shape than previously, which is why the death rate among that age group is still falling. How long you live is determined by an interaction between genes and environment. Genes are important, but there is plenty of scope for lifestyle influences."

"We are living longer because the conditions to which we are exposed today are less severe than they used to be. We are enjoying better nutrition, less exposure to infectious diseases, and less physical stress."

Professor Kirkwood, who is responsible for much of today's thinking on ageing, has developed the "disposable soma theory". This says that we age because our bodies have evolved in such a way as to put only a limited investment into those cells (somatic, or body cells) that are not involved in reproduction.

Evolution's higher priority has been the germ cells, which are involved in reproduction and which have to be "immortal" to keep the lineage going. "The ageing process works through the life-long accumulation of damage to the body, rather than being clock-driven. Damage can occur in a number of ways, such as oxidation by free radicals, mutations and accumulation of faulty proteins. The body keeps repairing the damage for as long as possible, but eventually too much damage accumulates."

Professor Kirkwood says that in order to live longer we need to enhance the maintenance function of our body and reduce the damage to which our cells are exposed.

The fact that genes are important in determining longevity is good news for Mrs MacArthur, whose father and mother lived to 93 and 90 years respectively. She wants to live to a ripe old age because she has sole responsibility for her 44-year-old son, who is autistic. She took hormone replacement therapy for five years and has been told that her bone density is good. Now that she has been commended for her physical strength, she feels confident about her future. "I would like to become a computer programmer after I finish the course. I think life really begins at 71."

*We are living longer because the conditions we are exposed to today are less severe'*

Research into Ageing, in a Cardiff shopping centre last week. The results of the experiment will be announced at the British Association's Annual Festival of Science at the University of Wales, Cardiff, tomorrow.

"Of course it is hard to get meaningful data out of a tangle of 200 volunteers over three days in a shopping centre," says Professor Pat Rabbitt, professor of cognitive gerontology at the University of Manchester, who will announce the results. "But, like Fanny and Johnny Craddock, I will have the results of something I prepared earlier."

Professor Rabbitt's research in to the cognitive abilities of old people (with a base of 6,500 volunteers), shows that individuals can retain their mental agility in certain areas and with practice, into extreme old age. It also shows that "most people trundle along to death with their wits still about them".

"Although the most reliable tests show a decline in cognitive function of 18 to 20 per cent after the age of 50, that means that we retain 80 per cent until death," he added.

His research is good news. It suggests the growth in those of pensionable age, from 10.7 million now to 11.8 million in 2010, may not be such a serious burden on the country's resources as was previously predicted.

In many ways, Mrs MacArthur is typical of today's older generation, in



Doug Rufus, who ran the London marathon at 86, shows the way ahead

Phil Spencer

## A QUESTION OF HEALTH

YOUR HEALTH QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED BY DR FRED KAVALIER

### It's in the jeans

I HAVE developed a red, itchy rash below my navel. It disappeared when I was on holiday in the sun, but has now reappeared. What causes such a bizarre symptom? Bizarre symptoms usually have bizarre causes, and I wonder if your rash is a skin allergy to nickel. If you wear jeans, the rash is almost certainly caused by an allergic reaction to the metal stud at the back of the button that fastens the waist. Try painting the stud with clear nail varnish and then sew a small piece of material over it. My bet is that the rash will disappear, though you may want to help it with some over-the-counter hydrocortisone cream for a few days.

which form inside joints, cause acute pain and swelling and for some mysterious reason, the big toe is the commonest part of the body to be affected. Some drugs, such as diuretics, can cause gout, but frequently it just comes out of the blue. If you are getting frequent attacks, it can be prevented by taking allopurinol tablets, which reduce the amount of uric acid in the bloodstream.

My doctor says I have tennis elbow, even though I have not played tennis for 10 years. I can barely lift a saucepan without suffering a terrible pain up and down my arm. This has been going on for six weeks and the only advice I have been given is to rest the arm. Is there no other way of helping it get better?

In my experience, tennis elbow hardly ever affects tennis players. It is caused by an injury to the spot just above the elbow where the "back-hand" muscles attach themselves to the upper arm bone. It can be brought on by movements that put a stress on these muscles - painting, carrying briefcases, repetitive action. It usually gets better if you can avoid the activity that caused it. If that fails, and you get tired of waiting, it may be possible to have a steroid injection into the tender spot; even that is not a guaranteed cure.

The left side of my face has suddenly begun to droop and I have been told that it is Bell's palsy. What is the cause of this? There are plenty of theories about what causes Bell's Palsy - a paralysis of the muscles of one side of the face - but no one knows for sure. It may be a virus infection of the facial nerve. Most people recover completely, although it can cause permanent weakness or paralysis of the face muscles in a few people. Steroid tablets are sometimes used to treat the condition, but they have not been proved to be effective.

Please send questions to A Question of Health, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5DL; fax 0171-293 2182. Unfortunately Dr Kavalier cannot respond to individual inquiries

I have just recovered from a painful attack of gout in my big toe joint. How can I prevent it happening again? Gout summons up images of crusty old men who drink port and eat large quantities of red meat. But, in fact, it is usually not caused by either dietary or alcohol over-indulgence, although it does affect men more than women. Microscopic crystals of uric acid,

## The babies at risk from the blues

Foetuses can be affected by antenatal depression - yet the condition gets little attention. By Lizzie Enfield

**BELINDA MUNDY** was happily married and living in her own home and, in theory, should have been delighted about her pregnancy. In reality, she was dogged by a depression that only lifted once her daughter was born. "I was in shock, I felt totally numb and just hoped it would go away. I nearly had a miscarriage at about 12 weeks and, although I don't like to say so now, I would have been relieved if I had lost the baby".

Studies have shown that one in 10 women gets depressed while pregnant. Statistics for postnatal depression are the same. Yet while the latter is a key area for research, the detection, prevention and management of antenatal depression are not part of standard clinical practice.

Belinda's pregnancy was unplanned, and she believes the shock may have contributed to her feelings. Christine (not her real name), on the other hand, had been trying for a baby for some time. "I thought when I got pregnant I'd be delighted but I was devastated. I felt as if having a baby was the worst

thing that could happen to me. I cried every day of the pregnancy and even when in labour I couldn't get out of my head the dread of having a baby".

Dr Vivette Glover, the head of the fetal and neonatal stress research unit at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, in London, is studying how the maternal mood affects the foetus. "Very little research has been done to find out how the mother's emotional state affects the baby. Yet there is a belief that it may do as much damage as smoking or drinking and that fetal stress syndrome should become a recognised condition".

Dr Glover believes there is increasing evidence to suggest that, if a mother is depressed or anxious, then the baby in the womb may suffer similar emotions. "When you are stressed or depressed there's a marked increase in the production of a stress hormone known as cortisol. It could be that this is passed on to the baby so that it also becomes stressed." Dr Glover also believes that a traumatic pregnancy may result in a more troublesome child.



A happier image of pregnancy

Brian Harris

Perhaps more worrying is the effect of depression and stress on a baby's size. "Women who are more anxious tend to have smaller babies. It seems that anxiety may restrict the blood flow to the womb, directly affecting the development of the baby." To back this theory Dr Glover points to Danish research that found that women who had suffered major stress, such as divorce or rape, while pregnant had much smaller babies with less developed neurological systems.

There are various explanations for antenatal depression. It has been linked to unplanned pregnancies and unpleasant side-effects such as nausea. Some psychiatrists believe many women simply become pregnant at a time when they are more vulnerable to depression, ie in their thirties. Others say the major life change brought about by the imminent arrival of a child can be a trigger.

Antenatal depression may also pose a risk to the baby as

a result of the associated health behaviour of the mother. Sara Clement, a research fellow at Guy's Hospital, in London, points to studies "which show that women who are depressed tend to smoke more".

Christine is a prime example of someone who may have put her baby at risk by ignoring health advice. "I had such a bad attitude towards the baby that I didn't do any of the recommended things like taking folic acid or avoiding blue cheese. I don't smoke but I drank for the full nine months and I found it hard to relax. By the time it came to having the baby I was exhausted".

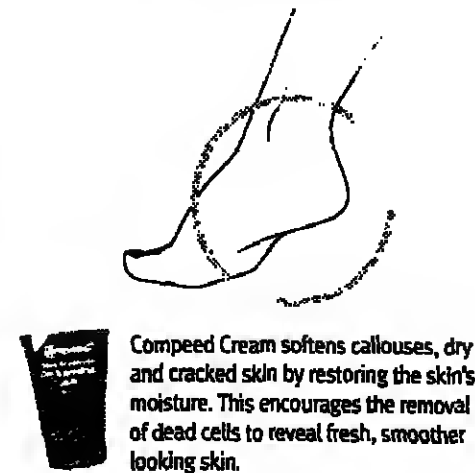
About one in three women who becomes depressed when pregnant goes on to develop postnatal depression. While it can be argued that postnatal depression is more problematic because the mother experiences it at a time when she faces exceptional demands, Ms Clement argues that antenatal depression is just as significant. "It's been shown that targeting women who are depressed when pregnant not only helps

them but may help prevent postnatal illness".

Perhaps one of the greatest stumbling blocks in treating antenatal depression is that admitting to negative feelings about the baby remains taboo. Belinda Mundy says: "At the beginning I told just about anyone who cared to listen how I was feeling but then I realised I was getting these bad reactions so I stopped. All the magazines and books make you feel as if you should be blooming - but I don't think you should be made to feel such a wicked person if you don't".

Dr Glover hopes that her research may encourage women to seek help early on in their pregnancies. "I don't want to scare women because, in most cases, they give birth to perfectly healthy babies. But if we can show that the emotional state of the mother directly influences the baby's mental and physical development then it will lend weight to the argument for earlier intervention to prevent depression in pregnancy. This should benefit both the mother and the baby."

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Gail Bilkus re-educates her brain's balance system with a series of exercises at Southgate Tube station

Neville Elder

## Spin doctors you can trust

It's making your head spin and it's highly unpleasant – dizziness is no joke. By Roger Dobson

Gail Bilkus's morning exercises on the platform at Southgate Tube station have made her something of a local celebrity. Each day she stares at the moving carriages of the train, waves her arms, and carries out a set of hand-eye coordination exercises. On the train, she goes through a second set of neck exercises and then reads a book until she feels sick.

This bizarre start to the working day for 36-year-old Gail is not another novel spiritual fitness regime, but a new treatment she has been prescribed for her dizziness.

A team of psychologists at University College, London, have found that many people who suffer with dizziness can reduce their problems with the help of a treatment designed to re-educate the brain.

New research suggests that one in four people in Britain suffers with bouts of dizziness, and that, for half of them, the episodes are severe enough to impinge on their everyday activities. As many as a quarter of all people who suffer dizziness also say they faint, and a third have anxiety symptoms too.

One of the obstacles to diagnosing and treating the condition is that the causes of dizziness are diverse, and can range from the trivial to the trivial, from inner ear problems, anxiety and allergy, to heart problems, cancer, and a delayed version of seasickness when the dizziness remains for up to a week after getting back on to dry land.

"Dizziness is a condition which makes a doctor's heart drop, because it can be caused by just about anything. A lot of the causes have no easy cure, and patients' fears about

dizziness prevent them from leading a normal life," says Dr Lucy Yardley, who led the research at UCL.

Dizziness is most frequently caused by a malfunction of the brain's sense of balance. At the heart of this system are three tiny, liquid-filled semicircular tubes in the inner ear, which act like spirit levels. These canals are positioned in three planes so that, whichever way the head is moved, one of the tubes will detect the movement and report back to the brain.

"The brain receives impulses from these balance organs in the inner ear, but it also receives information from other sensors too, including the eyes and what they see, and pressure receptors in the joints and muscles, which tell the brain which parts of the body are moving or in contact with the surface," says Professor John Birchall, professor of otolaryngology at Nottingham University.

It is when the brain starts to get different signals from the sensors that the problems of dizziness for many sufferers can occur.

Disorders of blood circulation are among the causes of dizziness. If the brain does not get enough blood, a feeling of light-headedness results. Many people get this feeling when they stand up quickly from lying down, but chronic sufferers get it much of the time.

Viral infections of the inner ear are another cause of dizziness, as are conditions involving the nerves, including multiple sclerosis. Allergies, too, can bring on vertigo when sufferers are exposed to food or dust particles to which they are sensitive. Dizziness is also part of the motion sickness suffered by many when they travel by car, plane or ship.

"With seasickness, your brain is getting conflicting signals. On the one hand your balance system is telling you that the body is moving, but your eyes see the ship's bar in front of you and it is stationary relative to you. The brain wonders what is going on, and you get a sense of dizziness when these messages conflict," says Professor Birchall.

In the biggest research project of

its kind, Dr Yardley surveyed a large group of patients suffering from dizziness, and offered some of them a special trial programme.

"We looked at people whose dizziness might be caused by problems with the balance organ in the inner ear, which are very difficult to diagnose," says Dr Yardley.

The treatment regime offered is designed to re-educate the brain on interpreting the signals it is getting from the balance sensors. It is based on the theory that if there is a problem with the balance system itself, the brain can reprogramme itself.

"But the reprogramming occurs only if you do all the things that make you dizzy; that's the only way the brain can learn. But dizzy people, of course, tend to avoid the things that make them dizzy, so their brains don't have a chance to reprogramme," says Dr Yardley.

She and her team gave the sufferers a four-times-a-day, five-minute exercise routine involving rapid head, eye and body exercises. After six weeks, patients who

had been given the special treatment were four times more likely than a control group of other patients to report improvements, and nearly 80 per cent said they felt better.

Gail Bilkus, who has been taking part in the treatment, traces her dizziness and inner ear problems back to an early age: "At school, I did a forward somersault and felt very odd – I found myself hanging on to the floor, trying not to fall off."

The symptoms disappeared for some time, largely because she avoided anything that triggered it.

"A few years ago, I was doing a lot of typing, and I also had a bout of flu, and suddenly my balance was all over the place. I was walking down the street as if I were on dope, and one day when I was lying on the bed, the ceiling started spinning around."

"People did all sorts of tests – I was spun round in a chair, had several scans, and had electrodes stuck on my head. In one test they got me to shut my eyes and march on the spot. If you have perfect balance you walk up and down on the spot, but if one ear is stronger than the other, you will drift across the room."

She was eventually told that the canal in one of her ears wasn't working, but that there was little that could be done. "Then I found about this new treatment and I have been given these exercises that I carry out," she says. "They do look very bizarre to people on Southgate Tube, but as long as they are doing me good – and they are – I don't care."

"When I sit on the Tube I have to read a book until I feel queasy. It's sometimes a fine balance between stopping and being sick, but so far I haven't thrown up on any of my fellow passengers."

### HOW TO KEEP YOUR HEAD

#### How to reduce dizziness:

- Avoid rapid changes in position, from lying down to standing up, and from side to side.
- Avoid extremes of head movement.
- Cut down on caffeine, salt and nicotine, which impair circulation.
- Minimise exposure to stress, and anything to which you are allergic.
- Always travel where your eyes will see the same motion that your ear and body feel – so

always sit in the front of a car, or go on to the deck of a ship to look at the horizon, or sit by the window in a plane.

● Do not read while travelling.

● Do not sit in a rear-facing seat.

● Avoid strong odours and spicy food.

Taken from the American Academy of Otolaryngology's advice leaflet for dizziness sufferers

## Let's put some first things last

HOW IMPORTANT are exam results? The most prized trophy in our education system is a first-class degree at university but, "first in school, last in life?" that is the question.

There have been only three scientific studies addressing this specific issue, and they suggest that firsts do better in the short term, but two of them are flawed. The Kosher study merely proves that, a year after graduation, firsts are better paid and more likely to have a job than 2.1s, and so on down. But scientifically solid evidence on whether degree class predicts success throughout life is non-existent.

Anecdotes can be wheeled out to support any view. Of our present leaders, Tony Blair did not get a first, Gordon Brown and Mo Mowlam (and Cherie Blair) did. So what?

My own prejudice is that most first-getters are people who had an unhealthy impulse to please adults. At a young age they started seeing the world through their parents' eyes, transferred this to teachers and examiners and learnt how to give them what they wanted. To test this theory, a few years ago I conducted a study.

I researched the degree classes of the chairmen from the top 50 of *The Times* 1,000 top industrial companies in the years 1992, 1988 and 1978 to see whether there was any correlation between career success and degree class.

Of the 60 chairmen who had taken a graded degree at a British university, 14 (24 per cent) had got firsts. Since only 8 per cent of graduates got firsts in 1955 (the average year when the chairmen graduated) this was fully three times more than was normal for a sample of 60 men of that generation. Did I not like that?

However, bless them, all but one of the chairmen that I spoke to (and a sporting 17 of them returned my call) felt that it was a lot of rot that firsts do better than the rest. Even the ones with firsts thought so, like Maurice Saatchi. He said: "A first proves only one thing: motivation. I worked until 1am or 2am every night, and every weekend in my final year. It gives you a head start, but that only lasts a couple of years."

When you look more closely at the results of my survey, nine out of the 14 took vocational degrees (engineering, business studies, computer science and so on). This may suggest that a first predicts career success only if it gives you a head start in that profession.

Equally significant, the proportion of firsts with vocational degrees who go into research is much lower than the overall average. Only 15 per cent of the various kinds of vocational firsts do further study, compared with the 39 per cent overall average.

Given that 39 per cent of all graduates who get a first go into academic research rather than join commerce, it is very possible that many of them do not have particularly distinguished careers.

In the Seventies, Professor Liam Hudson published a

### BRITAIN ON THE COUCH



OLIVER JAMES

To get a first, you have to ignore what you think and keep your teachers happy

number of studies showing that post-doctoral researchers with firsts were less successful than those with 2.1s and 2.2s. Given what it takes to get a first, this should not be surprising. To get one, you need to please your teachers, enjoy being supervised, and, ultimately, please the examiners. You must ignore what you think and concentrate on what they want. To do research and succeed as an academic, you need the opposite: think originally, be highly self-motivated rather than craving constant praise.

Trainee accountants with firsts or 2.1s (65 per cent) are more likely than 2.2s or thirds (41 per cent) to pass their accountancy exams. But that does not prove that the ones with high degrees are more likely to get the top of those professions. A recent survey of 254 leading companies showed that 71 per cent thought exam results a poor guide to an individual's abilities at work.

Interestingly, people with exceptionally high IQs are no more likely to succeed in their careers than those in the above average, but not exceptional, category (with an IQ of around 120). A follow-up study of 400 Americans who had IQs of 150 or more (the average is 100) in childhood did not find that they had unusually successful careers for people of their class and educational background.

I suspect that it is a myth that first-getters are of superior originality. They work hard, they are ambitious, but that does not prepare them for success in their subsequent careers. In many cases, they peak too early, and their first is their last outstanding achievement. If so, we need to question the purpose of a system whose crowning glory is a first-getter.

But you may not agree and, to save you writing in, the answer to the question is yes, I did get a 2.2.

The paperback edition of Oliver James's book, *'Britain on the Couch – Why We're Unhappier Compared with 1950 Despite Being Richer'*, is published by Arrow, price £7.99

## How your diet really can help you defy death

The role of nutrition in general healthcare has never been stronger. By Jerome Burne

I AM lying on my back watching a pulsing river of bright red run between shadowy black banks. It could be a clip from a programme about volcanoes, but it is in fact my gravity-defying blood, flowing through an artery to my brain.

It is amazing. I have an inkling of the thrill that a pregnant woman feels, hooked up to the same ultrasound machine, watching new life kicking and stretching in her womb. In my case, however, the purpose of this procedure is to estimate my chances of dying of a heart attack in the next 10 years.

Even though I'm outwardly fit and healthy, it could happen. Alarmingly, about 50 per cent of heart attacks are unpredictable, without any of the obvious risk factors, such as smoking, being overweight or eating a particularly fatty diet. People can just keel over with no warning.

But what can you do? If you're convinced that your arteries look like the pipe in a water-softerner advert, there's the option of a pretty unpleasant procedure known as an an-

giogram, which involves anaesthetics and pushing fine wires up your arteries. But most of us prefer not to know about that.

Now there's an alternative. I have been undergoing part of a health-care package that may revolutionise medical procedures. First of all, no needles are involved; just a hand-held scanner moving up and down over the carotid artery on the side of my neck. Then, if my arteries had been packed with plaque – they are in fact as clear as the M1 at 4am – I could have had it gradually swept away by changing my diet, rather than blasting it with drugs.

What makes this unusual is that I was in Harley Street, and the person who was working the scanner and discussing such dietary arcana as anti-oxidants and essential fatty acids was a regular physician – a senior registrar at the Chelsea and Westminster hospital – who admitted to having had a total of six to eight hours of nutrition classes

throughout her entire medical training.

"The medical profession still isn't very hot on nutrition," said 29-year-old Dr Beverly Carey. "The philosophy is still that you wait until people get really ill, then you zap them with surgery and drugs."

However, Beverly, who has just had a baby and is glowing with health, together with her equally fit-looking husband, Dr Adam Carey, have become converted to the value of clinical nutrition, and recently opened the Natural Health Clinic.

Adam's conversion happened after his father had major surgery, following a stroke. "He wasn't recovering properly," he explained. "Normally after three months you're as good as you're going to get, but he could barely walk 400 yards. We thought there was nothing to lose by adding extra nutrients to his barrage of medication. Eight months on, he was covering three miles a day."



A blocked artery spells danger Science Photo Library

For Beverly, the conviction that conventional medicine is missing out on something important came with her pregnancy. "I ate well and got all the right nutrients, and I just sailed through it." So what, the sceptics could say. Adam's father might have been a bit slower at healing than normal, and Bev-

ery's pregnancy could have been a doddle anyway. The point is that these are not isolated experiences. "When we started looking at the literature we were amazed at how much good evidence there is for the effectiveness of nutritional medicine," she says. "For instance, time and again

studies show that nutritional support for osteoporosis is effective, but these measures just haven't been assimilated into the mainstream."

And the data keeps coming in. A major study last year showed that large amounts – compared with the recommended daily intake – of vitamin E protects against heart attack. Another study showed that taking selenium regularly reduces the chances of developing cancer. The general public seem quite keen on this approach too. About 25 per cent of us regularly take extra vitamins or supplements, but in a pretty haphazard way.

"People take enormous care with their clothes, getting the right size and style," says Adam, "but when it comes to nutrition they often opt for a one-size-fits-all approach, and take a general supplement. We all have different nutritional needs at different times of our lives. Your basic metabolism, your

age, how much stress you're under can all affect what is appropriate. A pregnant woman needs more iron, while someone approaching middle-age may need extra coenzyme Q 10 because production drops off as we get older."

At the clinic, after seeing a regular GP, you will have a consultation with a clinical nutritionist, who will draw up a plan that is right for you.

"Our aim is to integrate clinical nutrition with mainstream medicine," says Beverly. "A nutritionist should have the same sort of relationship with a GP as a midwife does with an obstetrician. Ultimately, what we are doing should all be available on the NHS."

Because of their medical background, the Careys have ensured that the clinic has access to a range of sophisticated tests. Besides the ultrasound, they can test your adrenal function and bone density and analyse blood and sal-

iva. It is this combination of hi-tech diagnosis and low-tech, low-cost solutions that makes the clinic so interesting.

"You can lower cholesterol with drugs called statins," says Adam, "but it is very expensive. Giving statins to everyone in an area who could benefit would use up the entire health authority's drug budget. Eating properly won't cost the authority anything."

The Natural Health Clinic, 114 Harley Street, London W1. Phone/fax: 0171-224 5053

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July 20 1998







# Relegating Old Trafford to a game show

It is Murdoch's vision to turn Manchester United into the ultimate cash machine. By Jonathan Miller

Ten years ago, in the back of a limousine, I asked Rupert Murdoch, then my boss: "Why don't you buy Manchester United?" At the time, the ownership of the club was in play, and it subsequently fell into the control of Martin Edwards. This was before he turned Manchester United into a merchandising colossus and public company, for which British Sky Broadcasting is now offering £565m.

Murdoch did not act on my advice and buy the club in 1988, even though he would have saved himself more than £500m had he done so. I am left, merely a prophet without profit. To be fair, Murdoch did have another matter on his mind at the time, launching Sky Television, a gamble that almost cost him his company.

What took him so long? In exactly three weeks, Murdoch is launching digital television in Britain. His "battering ram", as he calls it, to drive sales both of dishes and to kick-start subscriptions, is, as ever, sport. BSkyB is already creating a private television station for Manchester United. Buying the whole club now offers him not only a seat at the high table of the world's richest sport, and at a crucial moment with talk of new leagues, but also a pay-per-view television business to drool for - a "virtual" Old Trafford of unlimited seating.

Murdoch enrages. A decade ago, launching Sky, Murdoch was accused of destroying the delicate ecology of British broadcasting (in fact, he unleashed an explosion of competition). Then, when BSkyB bought the exclusive rights to televise football's new Premier League, there were dire warnings that this would destroy the national game as we knew it (in fact, his money paid



Manchester United are not just on camera, they are playing 'in a television studio with attached superstore'

David Ashdown

for the game to reinvent itself. Now, the alarm bells are ringing again. What is at stake is more than mere commercial imperative, it is argued. If Murdoch buys United, it would threaten the soul of football. And the arguments are not just sentimental. It is perfectly obvious that Murdoch's aim is to monopolise top-level football, and the Government must stop him. But how?

Notwithstanding the dramatic intervention on Sunday of Tony Banks, the sports minister, who angrily demanded that the deal be scrutinised for competition implications, this is an issue that the Government will not relish deciding. It is therefore certain that it will pass the ball to the Office of Fair Trading, and ask it to examine the deal in the light of the new Competition Act.

Emotion aside, to have any hope of stopping this deal, Murdoch's opponents must address a specific point: just what is the substance of

the competition problem here, if any? Emotion and woolly thought won't do.

On Sunday, as this story broke, critics advanced what can only be called the "stranglehold" argument. The term was first used in the *Sunday Telegraph*, which quoted a senior Labour backbencher as saying that the deal would give Murdoch a "stranglehold on sport in this country".

This theme was repeated by the BBC, which quoted, among others, the *Sunday Telegraph's* own sports editor, Colin Gibson. Mr Gibson was reported to have said that there was no doubt that the deal would give Mr Murdoch a "stranglehold" on English football. Later in the day, I read on the Internet a story from the news agency AFP reporting from London that the deal would give Murdoch a "stranglehold" - without quoting anyone at all.

Unfortunately, while strangle-

holds are scary, the term is not one with much economic or legal meaning. Some improved arguments were being advanced in various newspaper columns yesterday. The best of these so far is the apparent problem that Murdoch could be negotiating on both sides of the battle for football television rights. These arguments are, I suspect, where the battle will be fought.

Critics have another burden: Murdoch will have plenty of arguments of his own. Making them will be his formidable chief economist and global troubleshooter, Dr Irwin Stelzer. He has a formidable story to tell: BSkyB is risking hundreds of millions in a gigantic gamble. It is creating thousands of new jobs.

And just why should Murdoch not buy a source of sports programming, just as he owns a film studio that sells its products to his television stations? Can it really be unfair competition if Murdoch has a seat in the

councils of the Premier League? There are after all 19 other Premier League teams, hence Murdoch's vote is only 5 per cent; other media companies can buy clubs, too, and many already have. Are all the other football chairmen patsies?

As for the fans, Dr Stelzer can argue (as *The Sun* already has) that they can only benefit, as the burden of buying new players and improving facilities is shared by those watching on television.

Furthermore, there is plenty of precedent for this deal, both in Britain and globally. The late Robert Maxwell, formerly proprietor of Mirror Group Newspapers (and a shareholder in this one) owned Oxford United. In Europe, the merger of media and sports teams is an old story. Silvio Berlusconi built his television empire alongside AC Milan (and Milan repeatedly won both Italy's Serie A and the European Cup with the players his money

brought). In America, Ted Turner turned a marginal station in Atlanta into a "superstation" by putting it on a satellite and broadcasting the games of his own baseball team, the Atlanta Braves. Murdoch himself, of course, owns American baseball and basketball teams.

Like it or not, Murdoch is showing the way to a radical new synchronicity of sport and media. We may deplore this, but not so as to stop it from becoming a template for 21st century entertainment. It is Murdoch's vision (but not his alone) that colossal pay-per-view revenues turn sporting arenas into the ultimate money machines. This will occur regardless, and not just in Manchester. Old Trafford and the other great stadia in Britain may be hallowed turf for the faithful, but in the age of digital media, a football ground is a television studio with attached superstore, whether Murdoch owns it or not.

Plan finds a friend in the 'Sun'

IMAGINE THE scene in The Sun's newsroom on Sunday. Reporters have been told to find fans and stars who support BSkyB's bid for Manchester United.

The fans should not have been too hard: there are an estimated four million. The Sun managed to find four fans in favour.

The celebrity trawl did not work out so well. Only the famous football analyst and Radio 1 presenter Zoe Ball came out in favour in an article headlined: "Stars and fans unite to hail Man U super-deal."

It did not take any deep analysis to work out the propaganda role played by Rupert Murdoch's British newspapers. In contrast to every other title yesterday, *The Sun* and *The Times* were the only papers not to lead on likely opposition to the deal.

The Sun's front-page headline was unambiguous: "Gold Trafford". The front page of *The Times* was more sober, although its headline still ignored likely opposition.

However, the sports desk showed less restraint: "A marriage made in heaven for United followers," was the headline above an opinion piece maintaining that United need never again miss out on players like Ronaldo.

The strategy of the Murdoch papers is clear: get United fans on board by promising so much money that they can have every player they ever wanted.

"For United fans to rail against the takeover is like lottery winners covering their ears when Camelot rings," said *The Times*. "It is for the rest of football to worry."

It is also something for the rest of journalism to worry about.

PAUL MCCANN

What is the truth behind 'News at Ten' becoming a tea-time programme? Here Richard Eyre and Gerald Kaufman argue the matter out

## Bong! Here begins - Bong! a brave new era

LOOK UP ITV's Monday night schedule for September 1997 and it will look reassuringly familiar - the regional news between 6pm and 7pm, *Coronation Street* at 7.30pm, *World in Action* followed by drama and at 10 o'clock, of course, *News at Ten*.

Yet the broadcasting environment has changed beyond recognition in those 31 years. The competition we face has grown dramatically and with the launch of digital transmission it will become even more intense.

So the question for ITV is how to preserve a market-leading position when the market is in not so much flux, as convulsion. It's a scale of change that provokes fundamental reappraisal - with no taboos. After 31 years, of course, there are strong views and deeply held personal preferences and I wouldn't want it any other way. The fact that the Prime Minister should express a point of view on the scheduling of a TV programme signifies the saliency of ITV in our culture. But the question now facing us is a bigger one than the scheduling of particular programmes - it's how to preserve that saliency in a new broadcasting era.

First, a few facts to concentrate the mind:

● Between 1994 and 1997, ITV's peak time share declined from 44.3 per cent to 38.8 per cent.

● The 9.30pm-10pm segment is the biggest half hour in British television. Any competitive broadcaster must make the most of the inheritance from this peak volume of viewers. Yet from January to May this year 27 per cent of the audience tuned to ITV in this peak segment tuned out at 10pm; that's nearly three times as much as the percentage drop for total television viewing. Thirty-seven per cent of our younger viewers defected at the same time.

● This is not because *News at Ten* is not a good programme. In my view it is by some way the best news programme on television, but viewers' behaviour suggests that the appetite for news at 10pm is not as



By opening up a 10pm slot we can inject new vigour and variety

great as for other forms of programming.

No decent business would ignore this kind of loss, especially when faced with an explosion in competition. Feisty and decisive management action is needed, even if it costs us some friends in the short term. ITV's economy is a simple one. Large, high-quality audiences beget advertising revenue. Advertising revenue enables future investment in quality programmes, which beget large and high-quality audiences.

Allow the audiences to drift away and the cycle would become a spiral. We have a strong public service remit, monitored by the ITC, which costs money to fulfil - more than £800m in 1998, £750m of it in originally home-produced programmes.

Allow the spiral to begin, and ITV's ability to sustain that kind of investment will cease.

By opening up a 10pm weekday slot, we can inject new vigour and variety into our schedule by effectively extending our peak time. There is, of course, a cost to this which is being borne by our shareholders as an investment in the future market position of ITV.

It's a calculated risk. We are a



Trevor McDonald, the nation's favourite newsmen, will front the new programme Bill Kennedy

commercial network, so we do have responsibilities to the many people whose pensions are invested in ITV companies, but the good news is that their interests are not at odds with those of the viewer.

This is because advertisers - our customers - don't want to buy "lowest-common-denominator" audiences; so we have no commercial interest in supplying sheer volume of numbers at the expense of the composition of our audience. Our commercial imperative is in fact to push ITV upmarket and to appeal to younger, discerning viewers. There is no commercial benefit whatsoever in moving downmarket.

Most independent readers get home after 6.30pm. But for the audience across the country there is a proven appetite for news in the early evening. This is where the highest-rating news programme of the day is currently sited. So, far from marginalising our news service, our plan to move it to 6.30pm will take it into the fray, to where more people appear to want to

watch it. And journalistically the 11pm bulletin will be a more comprehensive round-up and analysis of the full day in Parliament (90 per cent of divisions have occurred by 11pm, compared to 68 per cent by 10pm), the full US business day and even the opening of the Eastern markets - increasingly relevant.

But to understand ITV's proposals it's necessary to get beyond the argument as it relates exclusively to *News at Ten*. It is not particularly about uninterrupted films, though it's fair to say that ITV duty officers receive many more complaints on these nights than on the occasions when we shift the news.

The proposed change in the architecture of the schedule opens up the late evening for new, high-quality programmes, including the hour-long current affairs programme commissioned last week from Granada Television and planned for transmission in 1999.

This will be made in conjunction with ITN and anchored by Trevor McDonald, the country's favourite

newsman. It will be supplemented by a stream of 60-minute documentaries commissioned for 10pm, and comedy and drama from new writers more appropriate for a later evening slot.

ITV is a regionally based television channel. We're proud of that and consider it to be a competitive advantage in these days of increasingly similar national channel launches. 29 versions of ITV cater daily for individual regional interests and this will not change.

Broadcasting must be the most competitive market in the UK. All our competitors, including the BBC, have the flexibility to adapt their schedules to compete as they see fit. I hope it is not unreasonable to request the same degree of flexibility in the interests of a vibrant ITV. The end of *News at Ten* does, I agree, mark the end of an era. But eras end, and commercial organisations that fail to notice, end too.

Richard Eyre is chief executive of ITV

## Pallid placebos that invite a stern rejection

THE ITV companies have only themselves to blame for the furore over their proposal to shift *News at Ten* to 6.30pm. To judge from the sanctimonious whining emanating from ITV headquarters, it might be concluded that the timing of this pest of a programme was foisted on Channel 3 by some unwelcome outside authority. The force majeure was not with them. So when Big Ben chimed 10pm, the audience for Channel 3, up to then approximately 99 per cent of total viewers, suddenly plummeted to a minus zero quantity.

In fact, *News at Ten* is transmitted at 10pm because that is precisely what the ITV companies themselves voluntarily decided. Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act 1990 requires that "news programmes of high quality dealing with national and international matters" must be broadcast "in particular... at peak viewing times". Moreover, all the regional licensees must broadcast these news programmes "simultaneously".

When applications were received for ITV licences in 1991, no fewer than eight companies, including Anglia, Carlton and Scottish Television, in a carefully phrased briefing provided to me by the Independent Television Commission (ITC), "indicated an intention to broadcast their main news bulletin at 22.00 hours". And, "as the statute requires the main news bulletin to be networked, this means that all successful applicants ended up carrying *News at Ten*".

Far be it from me to suggest that any of these applicants had it in mind that to offer a 10pm peak-hour news bulletin might cause their application to prosper. But this offer did their applications no harm within two years, in 1993, some were already trying to ditch *News at Ten*. They failed. Now most want to rid themselves of this incubus which, they say, is so deleterious to the god of ratings.

A few weeks ago, ITV seemed to be taking a different view of its role in society. It distributed a detailed document alleging that the BBC was not fulfilling its public service remit appropriately. The implication was



They want rid of this incubus which is so deleterious to the god of ratings

that the public service ethic was safe, if not safer, in ITV's hands.

Yet now Channel 3's public service flagship programme, *News at Ten*, will, if ITV has its way, be re-routed to the tea-time exclusion zone. Of course, as in all exclusion-zone strategies, a smokescreen is being propagated. All kinds of goodies are promised, provided that *News at Ten* can be obliterated. There would be one-minute bulletins to cover breaking news. There would be a *News at Ten* on ITV2. A current affairs programme would be transmitted once a week, and there would be a 30-minute bulletin on Channel 3 at 11pm. If the word disingenuous did not exist, it would have to be invented for these pallid placebos.

There is no doubt about the ITC's rights with regard to *News at Ten* on Channel 3. It has absolute power to prevent *News at Ten* being shifted. The last time that shift was attempted, the admirable Sir George Russell, then chairman of the ITC, squashed it flat. Will his successor, Sir Robin Biggam, do the same?

Gerald Kaufman MP is chairman of the Culture, Media and Sport Parliamentary Select Committee

July 2015



The media industry's new home is in the wilds north of London's Oxford Street. By Paul McCann

# If you're in the know, you're in NoHo

IT IS an unfortunate fact of British business that whatever the efforts of cities such as Sheffield to attract media jobs, the industry is desperately stuck on London.

Rather than spread around the country, the industry spreads itself around London in ghettos such as Clerkenwell and Canary Wharf. The various media villages all compete with Soho, the original film and advertising ghetto, to be the media heartland, but so fast-growing are the electronic and advertising arts that Soho has for years needed its own annex.

In the wilds north of Oxford Street, away from Soho, lies NoHo, an area known in the Fifties as Fitzrovia, which is really just an extension of Marylebone.

Saatchi & Saatchi made its home in what is traditionally a garment trade district many years ago, but in the years since the early Nineties recession, television, radio, advertising, public relations and computer game businesses have all colonised the area.

And now there is the final confirmation that the media has taken the NoHo area to its heart: this month, it is getting its own private members' club.

The Media Club is in the basement of a specially designed building in Great Titchfield Street that houses companies such as Chris Evans's Ginger Productions, parts of Carlton Television and the computer games company Pure Entertainment.

This new club differs from the Soho media watering holes, and in

this difference, the owner Chris Parry Davies, head of Rewind Productions, sees the change that the media in general is undergoing as a business.

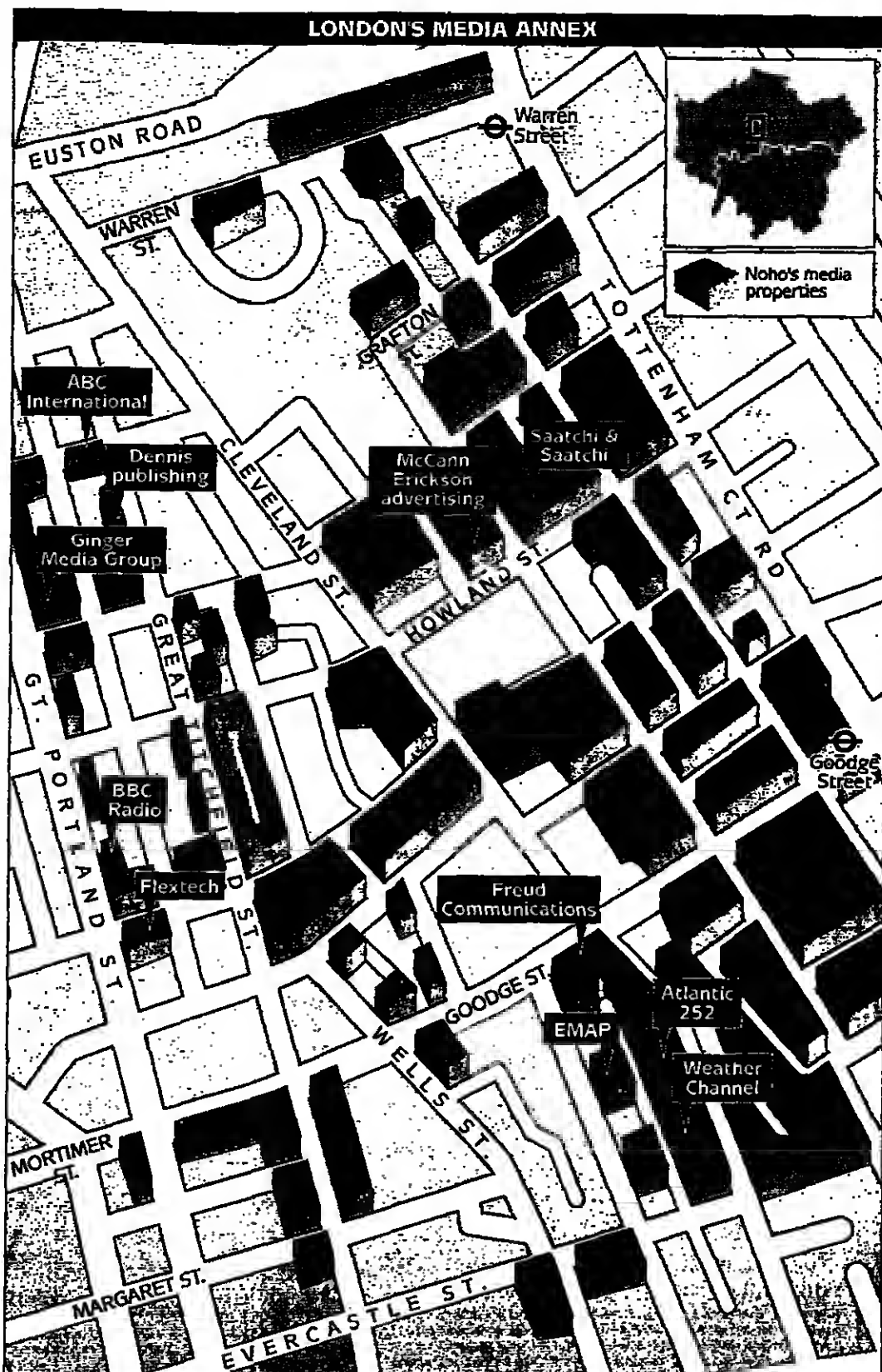
The Media Club is wired for work. There are broadcast-ready plug sockets for cameras in every wall, more fibre-optic capacity enters the building than BT uses to link London and Birmingham, and, unlike Soho House and the Groucho Club, the club does not have a ban on mobile phones; they are almost obligatory.

Late-night drinking sessions are not expected, staff contracts have confidentiality clauses to prevent leaks to the tabloid press, and there are no suspicious marble-topped cisterns in the toilets. Instead the Media Club is meant to be a place for meetings, business lunches and working.

"NoHo and the club are of a different generation from Soho," says Chris Parry Davies.

"Many of the businesses around here were set up during the recession - when it was cheap. It has made us anti-Thatcher's children. There is none of the Eighties' excess here; instead there are lots of small cable companies, radio production outfits, and facilities houses, which are on the front line of the media. It is a much more professional business now than it ever was."

NoHo is home to a media industry that is typified by impermanence. Freelance producers renting editing suites to make programmes for independent produc-



tion companies, as old as their latest commission, are the norm.

Lifelong jobs at the BBC - the original media inhabitant of NoHo - is the old model.

Members' bars and clubs have popped up all over Soho, because the area is crowded out.

Members are now essentially paying a premium to get a seat in a bar. So becoming a member of

something is becoming less elitist and more hip. In NoHo, there are precious few amenities outside the pubs that once served George Orwell and Dylan Thomas.

Some people would like to keep it that way. Alex Games, a writer and long-time NoHo resident, won't even countenance the name: "It's Marylebone."

"NoHo is a name dreamt up by

estate agents attempting to talk up

gentrification. The local people and the ordinary shops are being pushed out by the yapping media trends, sup-

ping their coffee latte and brandishing their Pison organisers in sandwich parlours," he says. "I don't object to a media club or whatever, but I would like to keep some shops."

## IF I RULED THE AIRWAVES

COMEDIAN DAVE GORMAN WALLOWS IN NOSTALGIA

THEY MADE only 13 episodes of Mr Benn but it has been shown every year since and, after *Blue Peter*, it is the UK's longest-running children's show.

As a child, I built up a huge imaginary world around him. He has been made unemployed, but cannot bear to tell Mrs Benn in case she stops seeing him as the Benn family provider. So, every day he gets dressed up in his suit, tie and bowler hat and disappears for a while.

Whereas others may go and sit tearfully in a lay-by, Mr Benn happens to know a magic fancy dress shop that will transport him to the world in which his costume belongs.

Sadly, when dressed up as a cowboy, he finds himself in the Wild West and not at a Village People concert, which would have been funnier.

Press Gang was a kids' programme about a group of youngsters running a children's newspaper. But it is only the youth of the cast that makes it a kids' show.

The dialogue is sassy, and the will-they-won't-they relationship between Julia Sawalha's Lynda and Dexter Fletcher's Spike is equal to anything that *Moonlighting* ever produced. Intelligent, witty, cinematic and not remotely patronising to its target audience, this really deserves to be seen by a broader spectrum of viewers.

The episode in which Colin buys a load of half ping-pong balls - pings - is a finely written, finely acted farce.

For early evening, it is impossible to beat *Morecambe and Wise*. This kind of comedy can never be recreated; how could two comedians share a bed in 1998 without there being some sexual overtones?

Even if not in the script it would inevitably be in the audience's mind, because our innocence is lost.

So, instead of trying to recreate it, just sit back and enjoy the perfect double act. More than the great gags, I love the awful ones.

There are times when the performance and the rhythm alone convince you that what you have just heard was

funny: what do you get if you cross a cocker spaniel and a poodle? A cock-a-doodle-do.

The audience laughs, Eric and Ernie turn to the camera and say, as one: "And if you think about that one it doesn't make sense." Now, that's alternative comedy.

A *Very Peculiar Practice* is as good as TV gets: beautifully scripted by Andrew Davies and brilliantly acted. Set in Lowlands University, Peter Davidson's idealistic young doctor sits aghast while all around him insanity reigns. And what were those nuns doing in the car park?



Two episodes of *Top of the Pops* separated by 10 years. 7 November 1979 - the Specials, Madness and the Selecter all appeared. An amazing watershed event. Ska music had definitely arrived. On 30 November 1988, I was a student in Manchester, and there was a palpable excitement about seeing both the Happy Mondays and The Stone Roses making their TOTP debuts.

So, that is what I would do if I ruled the airwaves. For day one.

On day two, I think I would have a *Theme-Night Night*. A nostalgic look back at the theme nights of the past that we have all come to know and love.

So, have I got the job?



If the Swedes have their way, McDonald's adverts in Europe would have to aim at the whole family, not just children

## A commercial break for parents

Sweden wants children's TV advertising banned across the EC. By Roger Harrabin

ANY PARENT knows the mind-numbing pressure of pester power - the bleating, tortuous whine of a child seduced by a TV advert for a breakfast cereal/toy/chocolate bar.

Any parent, that is, outside Norway and Sweden, where TV ads directed at children under 12 are banned.

The Swedes now want to liberate all Europe's pestered parents by using their EU presidency in 2001 to press for much stricter rules for advertising children's products.

They say that studies show that children under 12 do not fully comprehend the effect of advertising, cannot assess products advertised and do not properly value money.

Children under six are even more vulnerable, according to research; they often cannot distinguish between programmes, news and adverts. They simply react to the attractiveness of the slogans, pictures and colours. This, the Swedes say, makes the question of targeting children an ethical and moral issue which raises fundamental questions of fairness.

Sweden has protected its own children by framing restrictions in

two parts. There is an absolute ban on all adverts on terrestrial channels immediately before, after and during children's programming. There is also an all-day ban on any advertisements deemed to be aimed specifically at under-12s.

This leaves room for interpretation, but most advertisers play safe. McDonald's, the world's biggest advertiser to children, is obliged to present itself as a family restaurant in Sweden.

The beguiling fantasy cartoon adverts that so influence children in London fall outside the law in Stockholm, so the current humorous Swedish Macadverts portray a mum and dad meeting at the Macrestaurant after work.

Other products - such as Sindy Doll - are advertised instead on the Swedish language satellite channel beamed from the UK by Swedish entrepreneurs. The Swedes would like to impose their laws on these

London broadcasts, and have been involved in a long legal battle with companies that say that restricting free speech in advertising is a denial of commercial rights. Sweden's Trade Court will rule on the matter tomorrow at the same time as the United Nations Development Programme publishes its annual report, which praises Sweden and Norway for their leadership in protecting young children from consumerism.

Sweden's under-secretary for culture, Ann-Christin Nykvist, told BBC Radio's *Today* programme that the Swedes wanted to spread their restrictions across Europe partly to avoid satellite broadcasters dodging their laws but also because they believe the measure would be popular with parents in other countries. "TV adverts make children big consumers at an early age, and we should protect children who are vulnerable to this. We are traditionally a country with liberal

laws on censorship - but we think on this issue there needs to be strict laws."

Research suggests that nearly 90 per cent of Swedish advertising professionals back the restrictions. However, the Advertisers Association, an international lobby group, hopes to overcome this restrictive coalition with the help of Brussels. They say the Swedish laws are anti-competitive because, by denying children the opportunity to see TV ads, they favour products already in the market.

Bo Johansson, the association's director, says: "The kids need to know about the choice that exists on the market. The ban is not good in a modern free society."

The European Commission is considering the arguments as part of the review of the television directive. It might be helped by surveying consumer opinion polls in countries outside Scandinavia to see how many parents would welcome relief from pester power.

Roger Harrabin reports for Radio 4's *Today* programme

## Open the airwaves and let the tub-thumpers pay for it

At the Edinburgh Television Festival, Peter Bazalgette called for legalising of political television advertising. Here's why

BANAL, TENDENTIOUS, shallow, ludicrous, naïve, tedious, predictable, laughable - and that's being kind. No one, not even politicians, could claim to enjoy party political broadcasts.

Is there no other way of allowing the Windbags, Tub Thumpers and Allied Operatives access to the airwaves? There is. It's called advertising.

Politicians are able to advertise in newspapers and on billboards. Strange, you may think, that they are unable to do so on radio and television. The Neill Committee is due to report on the funding of political parties later this month. In its consultative document, published last December, it

asked whether such restrictions should be lifted. Let's hope it bears the interests of the poor viewers and listeners in mind as well as the self-serving arguments of the parties. Viewers want entertainment, not browbeating. Replacing party politicals with advertisements would certainly have its advantages.

We have always regulated radio and television more heavily than newspapers and billboards. The main reason was that radio and television channels were relatively scarce. When something is both powerful and scarce, you regulate it in the public interest, or so goes the Reithian

argument. But audio-visual channels are no longer scarce, and the regulatory regime has failed to keep up.

There are already tens of TV channels and a huge variety of radio stations. What, in principle, is the difference between them and newspapers or billboards? There is none. And, in any case, we are going to have to stop controlling the airwaves so neurotically.

The whole regulatory structure of broadcasting will change dramatically in the next

decade. Hundreds of channels cannot be scrutinised in the way that five can. In the future, we will police our viewing ourselves, via electronic programme guides.

I have heard it argued that politicians reduced to 30 seconds, as in the US, are trivialised. But how are we to regard five-minute party politicals? Models of rational discourse? Profound expositions of policy? Sorry Tony, William and Paddy, but I think not. Analysis and investigation are

jobs for current affairs programmes such as BBC2's *Newsnight*. So let the BBC carry on with that task and allow political advertising on the commercial channels.

The different regulation of media is not the only inconsistency. The advertising industry is much exercised by the fact that existing political advertisements are exempt from key parts of the voluntary code for newspapers and billboards, overseen by the Advertising Standards Authority. Which

parts would they be, then? Well, among other things, the need to be truthful and have documentary evidence to substantiate claims. The Advertisers, represented by the Committee of Advertising Practice, have asked the Neill Committee to bring political advertisements under the full code, or make them publicly and totally exempt. They fear that our elected representatives will otherwise bring their profession into disrepute.

But since it is clear that politicians will say just about anything to secure re-election, I should reassure *Independent* readers that the constraints of obscenity and libel still apply.

One way or another, there now needs to be consistency. Allow political advertising in all media, or ban it completely. Make the politicians subject to the codes in their entirety, or exempt them. Personally, I would allow the advertising and exempt them from the codes.

The final issue is whether the parties can afford it. Those who wish to see a genuinely level playing-field between the parties, regardless of their funds, may prefer a total ban. My view is let them get on with it and ensure that broadcasts are available free during elections. But please, let's have no more of the five-minute "Mogadon movies" between elections.















# TUESDAY RADIO

**RADIO 1** (97.8-98.8MHz FM)  
6.30 Chris Moyles. 9.00 Simon Mayo: With Radio 1's Greatest Hits from 8.00. 12.00 Jo Whiley: The lunchtime social airs all the best new music. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce: Featuring today's Most Wanted chart, Newsbeat at 5.45, and the Mix at 6.00. 6.30 Steve Lamacq - The Evening Session: Brimful of cutting-edge new tunes and exclusive session tracks. 8.30 Digital Update. 8.40 John Peel. 10.50 Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Clive Warren.

**RADIO 2** (88-90.2MHz FM)  
6.00 Alex Lester: The Dawn Patrol. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce: Classic hits, new chart breakers, love songs. 12.00 Jimmy Young: Talking to the people who make the news. Phone the comment line on 0500 288291. Lines open from 11.30am to 11.55pm. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.00 John Dunn. 6.00 Carl Davis Classics: Carl Davis presents his favourite popular classics. His guest this week is Michael Ball. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 George Gershwin: A Stairway to Paradise. 10.00 Kennedy and the Violin. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 - 4.00 Annie O'Hara.

**RADIO 3** (90.2-92.4MHz FM)  
6.00 On Air. 6.30 Masterworks. 10.30 Proms Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Janscek. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 BBC Proms 98. (R) 4.00 Choral Voices. 4.45 Music Machine. (R) 5.00 In Tune. 7.00 BBC Proms 98. 7.40 The Reluctant Symphonist: John Deathridge looks at the musical and cultural influences that shaped Brahms's first symphony, tracing a long journey from private doubt to public faith in the German symphonic tradition. 8.00 Concert, part 2: Brahms: Symphony No 1 in C minor.

## PICK OF THE DAY

**STRANGE DAYS**: after decades of documentaries analysing the British disease and making unfavourable comparisons with the German economic firm, now we have programmes analysing the German disease and wondering why they can't be more like us. **Diagnosing Deutschland** (8pm RA) has David Sells visiting factories and offices around Germany, generally clicking his

tongue and shaking his head at the Germans' ludicrously short working week, high unemployment, and "lazy addition to old structures". The late From (10pm RA) features *Ordo Virtutum*, a musical morality play by mystic chart-topper Hildegard of Bingen (right), in which Queen Humility leads the Virtues in a battle with the Devil for a soul. **ROBERT HANES**



Hildegard of Bingen, a mystic and composer, is featured in the musical *Ordo Virtutum*.

9.35 Postscript: A five-part series in which leading philosophers offer their appreciation of great thinkers. 2: Machiavelli, Quentin Skinner, one of today's leading historians of political thought, argues that Machiavelli still has a great deal to teach us about the importance of civic participation in guaranteeing our individual freedom. (R) 9.30 Bach: Flute Sonata in E minor, BWV1034. William Bennett, George Malcolm (harpichord), Michael Evans (cello). 10.00 BBC Proms 98. Live from the Royal Albert Hall. London. The earliest surviving morality play - a drama of virtues, morals and devils - marks the 500th anniversary of Hildegard, mystic, writer, abbess and wildly original composer. Sequenza/Barbara Thornton. Hildegard of Bingen: *Ordo Virtutum*. See *Pick of the Day*. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Proms Composers of the Week: Elser and Weill. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

**RADIO 4** (92.4-94.6MHz FM)  
6.00 Today. 9.00 On the Ropes. 9.30 Tales from the Village. 9.45 The Owl's Watchsong. 10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS: Cajun Country. (R) 11.30 Sketches by Boz. 12.00 NEWS: You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Points of Law.

2.00 NEWS: The Archers. 2.45 Afternoon Play: The Hydro. 3.00 NEWS: The Exchange (071-580 4444). 3.30 Blind Man on the Rampage. (R) 3.45 Lyric Ballads. 4.00 NEWS: The Learning Curve. 4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Nuisance. 7.00 NEWS: The Archers. 7.15 Front Row: Mark Lawson chairs the night's arts programme. 7.45 Dear Santa Brown: "End of Innocence" by Nick Fisher. Voices from the past call Jayne back to a final reckoning and reveal crucial clues to the identity of her nameless correspondent. With Jill Balcon, Stella Gonet, Angela Plessanger and Valerie Sarrot. Director Celia de Wolff (2/5). 8.00 NEWS: Diagnosing Deutschland. Reunited Germany was to be the powerhouse of the new Europe. But doubts persist about the country's economic health and its enthusiasm for new international roles. In two programmes, David Sells explores these fears about the German future. 1: "Old Habits Die Hard". See *Pick of the Day*. 8.45 In Touch. Peter White with news for visually impaired people. 9.00 NEWS: Patient Progress. "Natural Born Killers". Sue Armstrong explores the biology of alcoholism. As leading scientists

unravel the biochemistry of complex brain circuits, they are gaining a more detailed understanding of what happens to us when we drink alcohol. 9.30 On the Ropes. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Saviour of Larks. Neil Buggy reads the second of five short stories by Brian Friel. When Harry Grass and his colleague arrive in Donegal to exhumate a German soldier's body, the local policemen are reluctant to help. 11.00 The Iguanodon. A three-part comedy adventure by Paul Lucas. Sam Verley needs a life back to the mainland. Mr Brook is looking for an adventure at sea after a lifetime in custard. Neither gets what he expects on a boat called the Iguanodon. 1: "Away and Slightly to the Left". With Paul Haigh, Dermot Crowley and Bernard Cribbins. (R) 11.30 Talking Pictures. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Tales from Ovid. (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

**RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 509kHz MW)  
6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Nationwide. 4.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Jonathan Overend with full coverage of the night's football action, including Leeds v Southampton and Nottingham Forest v Everton in the Premiership. In the First Division, Sunderland take on Bristol City at the Stadium of Light. Plus news of the night's league matches. 10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. Including 10.30 a full sports round-up. 11.00 News and finance. And between 11.30 and 1.00 a sharp and spirited late-night topical discussion. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

**CLASSIC FM** (100.0-101.9MHz FM)  
6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Cullum. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Menen. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

**VIRGIN RADIO** (125, 197-200kHz MW 105.8MHz FM)  
6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Bobby Hain. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Mark Forster. 7.00 Paul Coyte from 6.45. 7.30 Paul Coyte. 10.00 Mark Forster. 1.00 Peter Poulton. 4.30 - 6.30 Jeremy Clark.

**WORLD SERVICE** (598kHz LW)  
1.00 News. 1.30 The Farming World. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Meridian (Live). 4.00 World News. 4.05 World Business Report. 4.35 Sports Roundup. 4.30 - 7.00 The World Today.

**TALK RADIO**  
7.00 Bill Overton and Kirsty Young. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 11.00 Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anna Raeburn. 3.00 Tommy Boyd. 5.00 Peter Dealey. 7.00 Nick Abbot. 9.00 James Whala. 1.00 Ian Collins. 5.00 - 7.00 Early Show.

## INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

### CHESS

JON SPEELMAN

THE KASPAROV-TIMMAN match kicked off on Sunday in the Archa Theatre in Prague. They are playing six games for a purse of \$100,000 to be divided 65:35, with the last game next Sunday.

There had already been fireworks, however, at the press conference preceding the opening ceremony on Saturday, as Kasparov excoriated Luis Rentero Suarez, president of the World Chess Council and erstwhile organiser of Kasparov's "title defence" against Alexei Shirov, for which the Timman match was intended to be a warm-up.

We all understood that he [Rentero] had received verbal assurances and, in fact, a commitment from the government of Andalusia... Luis Rentero personally announced a \$2.1m prize money pool, of which \$200,000 would go to the losing player in the candidates match [between Shirov and Kramnik] and the \$1.9m remaining would go to the two players in the finals... What then transpired is not totally clear to me... [Rentero] stated on numerous occasions that his word was his bond, that he would guarantee that the match would take place... As of today no alternative site has been found, and within the next week or two we will decide what to do.

Kasparov finished with a proud defence of his title, which "cannot be taken away from me by decree... somebody is going to have to sit down across the table from me and beat me fair and square."

Of course, it was only one game, but Timman very nearly did just that on Sunday. He bravely adopted a most perilous line of the Queen's Gambit Accepted which

Tony Miles once successfully used against Vladimir Kramnik. White could certainly consider 13 Qxg7 but lines like Rf8 14 Be2 Na4 15 0-0 Bxc3 16 bxc3 Nxc3 are very unclear. Kasparov never quite "connected" and Timman finally reached a vastly better ending after 34...Rxd4. But Kasparov held on. In the final position after 57...Ng3+ 58 Kg5 Black can reach either rook v bishop with Nxf5, or rook and knight v rook with 58...Nxe2; but both are fairly easy theoretical draws.

White: Gary Kasparov  
Black: Jan Timman  
Prague (Game 1) 1998  
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5	30 g3 Rxd8
2 Nf3 Nf6	31 h3g6 Nxg6
3 c4 dxc4	32 Be4 c3
4 Ne3 a6	33 Bxc3 Nxc3
5 e4 f5	34 Rxc3 Rxd4
6 e5 Nd5	35 Ra3 Rxb4
7 f4 e6	36 Rxf7 Nxe5
8 axb5 Bb4	37 Rxf7 Rb8
9 Qc2 Nd6	38 f4 Ne4
10 Qd4 Qd5	39 Bf3 Nd6
11 Qg4 axb5	40 Rxf5 Nf5
12 Rf4 Qxh8	41 Rxf7 Nd6
13 Be2 Rg8	42 Rf6 Ne6
14 0-0 Bxc3	43 Kh2 Nf6
15 bxc3 Ne6	44 f5 exf5
16 Bb1 Ne7	45 Kg3 f4+
17 Kf2 Ng5	46 Kd3 Rb4+
18 Ng5 h6	47 Kf3 Bf5
19 Ne4 Kf8	48 Rd6 h5
20 Ne5 Nd8	49 Rd4 Rf2
21 Qf5 Nf7	50 Nd3 Rb3
22 Bh7 Rg8	51 Be2 Ng4+
23 Be4 Qh2	52 Kf4 Rxd3
24 b4 g6	53 Rxd3 Rb4+
25 Bb1 Qa5	54 Kg3 Ne5
26 Bb3 Qd7	55 Rf3 Ne4+
27 h5 Qa3	56 Kh2 f5
28 Rf1 b4	57 Rxf5
29 cxb4 Qxh3	Draw Agreed

## CREATIVITY

SERENA MACKESY

TAKING OVER from Hartston is a daunting task: the pavement cleaners responsible for the area around Canary Wharf tower have been threatening to strike if one more body hits the ground. So the baton has been passed to me for want of sturdier souls. Have patience.

Before he deserted, William asked contributors to suggest how best to replace Creativity. A slew of mail, mostly in rhyming hexameters, hit the pigeonholes, lamenting the loss of the chessmaster and all-round eccentric. No one, however, made any suggestions for a new incarnation. And, being a great believer in the magic powers of truism, I am going with the "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" option.

So I have two problems. First, my predecessor has left a gap. I won't be able to reproduce your gems, as I have none. I know it's been a couple of weeks, but I expect your creative juices merely to be the more abundant for lack of outlet. More important, I haven't Mr Hartston's relationship with you, and can't decipher the creative scrawl with which you sign letters.

Be angels and put block capitals under those autographs, please?

One change, Colin Archer of Virginia Water wrote in with suggestions for future themes, one of which we are using this week. As I say, this is your column, so I thought it might be nice to throw open the competition to those who want to contribute ideas. So a *Chambers Dictionary* to anyone whose theme we use, and two more to the first two (or three if I have to think up my own theme) entries I judge in my infinite wisdom to be the most deserving.

A dictionary to Mr Archer for the following: Now that even Lady Thatcher concedes that the Conservative Party cannot win the next general election, only one option remains: to change the name of the party. The new name must be dynamic and traditional and totally non-committal. Proposals, please, to Creativity 1 new editor, new numbering, *The Independent*, 18th Floor, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL. Results will be published two weeks from today.

## SATELLITE AND CABLE

### PICK OF THE DAY

**PAINTERS** HAVE long held a fascination for actors - think of Kirk Douglas as Van Gogh in *Last of the Great Painters* (1998), John Huston as Michelangelo in *The Ecstasy*, and Derek Jacobi as Francis Bacon in the soon-to-be-released *Love is the Devil*. In *Surviving Picasso* (8pm Sky Movies Screen 2), Anthony Hopkins (right) turns in a typically eye-catching performance as Pablo Picasso. James Ivory's biopic is a change of tack for the

director best known for his E.M. Forster adaptations: centres on the artist's sometimes volatile relationship with Françoise Gilet (played by Natasha McElhone). Sky 1 seems to have an unquenchable thirst for programmes about disasters. *Hotels Mobbed Out of Control* (8pm Sky 1), a new series, broadcasts footage of afrays from around the world where ordinary citizens turned to looting and destruction.



James Ivory's *Surviving Picasso* features Anthony Hopkins as the artist.

**Sky Movies Screen 1**  
6.00 The Judge Steps Out (1994)  
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**JASPER**

**REES**

## TELEVISION REVIEW



EVERY HEAR THE one about the priest, the bent copper and the crack addict? They found themselves in Liverpool One (TV), and I must confess I laughed at the punchline which revealed that they all swears earlier, never you mind how. Like Fitz in *Cruelcut*, but while lot more paranoiac Detective Constable Isabel Poul is blessed with the ability to solve cases by sheer intellect. In this story she returned to the

earlier, never you mind now.  
Like Fritz in *Crusker*, but  
whole lot more purrfect  
Detective Constable Isobel  
Pauli is blessed with the ability  
to solve cases by sheer intellect.  
In this story she seemed to find  
the murder weapon with the  
help of a divining rod, an  
amazingly deductive and

[illegible]

into the gangster of cartoon left-footers alone. Summatta Jones, or Son, as she's called here, is the credits here, possibly to disconcert herself from the Summatta Jones recently sighted in the vicinity of Rhode Is. the Wood. You can tell her apart from her own colleagues because she's the one with the plumping, marmeked tops and the degree in psychology. That's another. MacDonnell, by the way, and another layer of mimg. Psychology is a perfectly respectable field of knowledge, but stick it in a primatological cap show and it starts to resemble witchcraft, a coze of leav's e solution, we've prepared

to tell you. How I could make out your hall's one omea a recollect, wit, witless, and a thought, yes, generally do. The witness is quoted before list of friends could be themselves. The real oddity of *Leopold* One is that, while James has been cost-prodded because she's a bit wild, the *Lorded* brought in to believe that the character is being with beyond who doesn't want sleep with her. It's a form positive discrimination, I suppose, but probably an expedition of. She'll doubtless be humiliated colleagues, but the series is called what's called having a life and saving a little bit for after

## BBCI

BBQZ

ITV Carlton

# Channel 4

# Channel 5

**6.00 Business Breakfast** (8293), **9.00 News** (T) (56427)  
**9.00 Kinky** (S) (8790224), **9.40 Breakers** (S) (7726234)  
**10.05 Sex Wars** (S) (8718653), **10.30 Daily Live** (S) (T)  
**(443377)**, **10.55 News**, Regional News, Weather (T)  
**(95795)**, **11.00 Style Challenge** (S) (987350), **11.25**  
Curt Cook, Mori Cook (S) (T) (977717), **11.55 News**,  
Regional News (S) (7768071), **12.00 Through**  
the Keyhole (S) (T) (8789040), **12.25 Without** (S)  
**(736375)**, **12.50 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (7457972),  
**1.00 News**, Weather (S) (6514), **1.30 Regional News**  
and Weather (A003972), **1.40 Nighthour** (S) (T)  
**(9728008)**, **2.05 Breakfast** (S) (9240475), **2.28 Quango**  
**(T) (773423)**, **3.15 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (2633972)  
**(S) (832331).**

**3.25 Children's BBCs**, Grandeurus Gang (R) (S)  
**(7007125)**, **3.30 Playdays** (S) (T) (7802514), **3.50**  
ChurchyWagon (R) (S) (7862726), **4.10 Gadget Boy** (R)  
**(S) (832331).**

**4.25 Children's BBCs**, Round the Twist (R) (S) (T) (3476311)  
**5.00 Newround** (S) (T) (6881953), **5.40 Byker Grove**  
**(R) (S) (T) (8822633).**

**5.55 Nalghbour** (S) (T) (698972).  
**6.00 News**, Weather (T) (656).

**6.30 Newround South East**, Regional news magazine  
**(T) (571).**

**7.00 Holiday Heaven**, Cakes got tea time. The week.  
Armedheim mania! Duban and David Mello go  
to Rwanda (S) (T) (279).

**7.30 EasterEnder**, Sports back. Tilly, Grant and Louise  
lure and huff about the future (S) (T) (655).

**8.00 Friend Squad**, Birmingham Tieding Standards offscreen  
hurl (rudiculous!) Levi's sellers and Jess hidden cameras  
catch out cowboy repetition (S) (6555).

**8.30 509 Baby Special**, Heartlifting! Duggard double-hunt  
as those in need of reeducation are also in need of  
nappies (S) (7539).

**9.00 News**, Regional News, Weather (T) (7224).

**9.30 Men Behaving Badly**, Gary suspects that Dorothy  
having an affair (R) (S) (T) (80339).

**10.00 Crimewatch UK**. Nick Rose and Jill Dando raise  
public perceptions of the risk of violence (S) (T)  
**(828363).**

**10.50 BBC Proms 95**, The Academy of Ancient Music and  
Christopher Hogwood perform Handel's "Water Music"  
and Jodelle de la Piaz (with the Choir of West College,  
Oxford) and are joined by Andrew Marlowe and soprano  
Erma Kirby for Beethoven Violin Concerto in E and the  
Vivaldi maelstrom in *Musica da Camera* (S) (578972).

**11.05 Crimewatch UK Update** (S) (T) (880205).

**12.05 BBC Relays Accused** (Rural Hospice, 1893 UK),  
Young women turn into trouble with the authorities  
A TV movie (S) (40626).

**1.40 Jones BBC News 24** (6463339). To Gem.

**5.40 J.J.'s, Ragga and Synthsteez** (T) (6205778).  
5.35 **Oneturs**: Dramatic on Arjo (5486566). 7.00  
1. **Jealibee** (S) (0891750). 7.25 **Surviv** Adventure (T).  
(S) (830995). 7.40 **Blue Planet** (T) (S) (T) (3446832).  
5.45 **Basille** (S) (4186772). 6.25 **GreedySaurus** (S)  
(S) (687224). 6.45 **Harry and the Hendersons** (S)  
(T) (6507768). 9.40 **Hewkye** (T) (7224476). 9.50  
1. **Cellion** (679331). 10.00 **Jealibee** (S) (14102). 10.30  
1. **Ad of Love** (Anabelle Livak 1983 US). Gile  
Persian (onance Incure Cos wain T) (5567768). 12.45  
Wear (T) (S) (267672). 12.50 **Working Lunch**  
(65041). 1.00 **Wahing** (S) (5703302).

**5.40 TWIN The Fighting Saabees** (Edward Ludwig :  
1944 US). John Wayne saves the Pacific (T) (5293404).  
2.45 **New**: Louis L'Amour's Weather (T) (670558). 2.50 ?  
Who'd be the Pudding? (S) (418034). 3.20 **Beauful**  
Things (S) (S) (670446). 4.25 **New**: Weather (T)  
(6765717). 4.50 **How Does Your Garden Grow?** (S) (T)  
(T) 7.00 **Change** (T) (S) (644501). 4.25 **Heady**  
Slack: Cook (S) (S) (T) (6854088). 4.55 **Esther** (S) (T)  
(650332).

**5.50 Today's the Day** (S) (T) (205).  
6.00 **Prize Phine** of the Bad Air: Will Smith works his way to  
stardom (T) (S) (623471).

**6.25 Heartbreak High**: Sarah wants to talk her  
relationship with Ryan to a higher plane. Yet is not  
amused. Diaz is approached by a personal manager (S)  
(T) (658686).

**7.40 Children's BBC: Q Zone** (R) (S) (016653).

**7.50 Home Ground**: Questioning the conviction of Stephen  
Dorling for the murder 26 years ago at 4 women in a  
cannery in Bakersfield, Derbyshire (R) (S) (T) (137).

**8.00 CRUISE The Upper Orbit**: Socially photographer  
Christopher Sheas takes the cabine of British stately  
hurses (S) (T) (6137). See *Cookery Show of the Day*, below

**8.30 The Antiques Show**: Celebrity memorabilia and the  
cost of maintaining great estates (S) (T) (68672).

**9.00 FILM Deadly Invention: the Killer Bee**  
**Nightmare** (Rockie S O'Brian, 1994 US) Ood how  
this killer bee threat has entered the Hollywood psyche  
with each locc. Here, a family is trapped in their house  
by a swarm so shy they even cut the phone wires.  
A B-movie with a capital Bee (S) (T) (6585).

**10.30 Newswright** (T) (631663).

**11.45 Nightmare in Paradise** (S) (T) (225750). 11.55  
**Grace Under Fire** (S) (798798). 12.30 **BBC Learning**  
**Zone**: Open University: Refining the View (T) (68170).  
1.00 **Atires in Logic** - Compulises in Wood (T) (65737).  
1.30 **Jackie**: Characters and Women (T) (7744). 2.00  
The Greens: New Series and Invention 3 (1950). 4.00  
Languages: The New Get By in Spanish Part 1 (1672).  
6.00 **Business and Training: Career Moves** (767184).  
5.45 **Open University**: Living with technology (655470).  
To E5:am.

5.00 **GMTV** (8/23/77) 5.25 **Venezia** (5) (7) (6/29/44), 10.5  
The Morning (7) (4/28/21/72) 12 **NY Street**  
(4/61/23) 12.30 **News: Weather** (7) (7/23/34) 1.00  
London Today (7) (6/66/2) 1.30 **TV Night** (5) (7/23/34)  
Show (5) (7) (7/23/34/48) 2.45 **Home and Away** (5) (7)  
(7/23/31) 2.45 **Dale's Supernatural Sweep** (5) (7)  
(7/24/48/2) 3.15 **ITN News Headlines** (7) (7/23/35), 3.20  
London Today (7) (7/26/97/2).

3.25 **Children's ITV**, **Wizard** (6) (7/26/95/5), 3.35 The  
Single Kellie News (6) (4/28/40), 3.45 **Wolves**,  
Witches and Glemie (5) (7) (4/19/72).

4.00 **Children's ITV**, **Zzap!** (5) (6/33/24/3) 4.20 **Jurnal**  
(7) (6/33/31/7) 4.40 **Out of Sight** (7) (5) (7) (6/25/45),  
5.10 **Home and Away** (5) (7) (6/7/20/5).

5.40 **News: Weather** (7) (7/27/54).

5.00 **London Tonight**, And weather (7) (4/27).

5.30 **Good Stuff**, Rowland Rivron and Wendy Douglas  
review the showbiz lives (5) (7/79).

7.00 **Emmerdale**, Kim and Steven robbery plan, Lord  
Michael has a surprise for Tera (5) (7) (7/24).

7.30 **First Edition**, Headline are on the loose, apparently.  
And scientists know very little about them (5) (6/63).

8.00 **Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?** (5) (7) (2/66/3).

8.30 **Police, Camera, Action!**, A couple stung on the  
motorway, a woman does her make-up at 80mph, plus  
what to do if your car catches fire (4) (5) (7) (7/28).

9.00 **Supply and Demand**, The Lynde Le Plante pict-  
SAS charge on to Mike, determined to prove  
Hughes' involvement in the deception and  
subsequent murder, and Helen tells the concerning  
Moreno are confirmed (5) (7) (6/23).

10.00 **News: Weather** (7) (7/77/5).

10.30 **London Tonight** (7) (6/16/33).

10.40 **SHOOT**, **Chippendale's Secret History**, The  
mucky background to the famed dining-room units (7)  
(6/60/7). See *Documentation of the Day*, Jack

11.40 **Remegade** (5) (2/36/78), 12.40 The Haunted Flankey  
(4/60/28/5), 1.10 **Point Rock Profiles** (5) (7/33/25), 1.40  
Best of Britain Motor Sport (6/33/35/5).

2.05 **ITN**, **Emergency**, French Saïdie 102 URJ, Small  
girl with rare blood type needs donor (7/27/77/3).

3.05 **Soundsixx** (5) (5/45/78/3), 3.25 **Nationwide Football**  
League Extra (5/55/57/5), 4.20 **TV Night** (5)  
(6/62/47), 5.30 **ITN Morning News** (4/33/5), to 6am.

**5.30 The Big Breakfast** (S) (T) (1157), 5.00 **Bewitched** (F) (94427).

**5.30 FILM Moon over Miami** (Miller Lang 1941 US). Another slice of the mystifying Betty Grable season. Grable and girlfriends head off to dry wealthy husband by clomping round in platform shoes (T) (25594392).

**11.50 Drink Up** (1.30 Movie People (R) (S) - 12.00 *Sesame Street* (44683), 12.30 *Dream or Jeannie* (70576), 1.00 *Watercooler Challenge* (F) (T) (4429), 1.30 *Spore Time* (4089834).

**1.45 CHOICE The Statute of David** (Link, 193 US). Bette Davis is depicted in the guise of a cross-dressing Earl Flyn (T) (5047777). See *Film of the Day*, below.

**5.30 Classic Herman** (R) (S) (869), 4.00 *Films to Or - the Big Winners* (R) (S) (382), 4.30 *Candium* (S) (T) (442750), 4.55 *Right Late* (S) (T) (8930089).

**5.30 Pat Rescues**. Searching for a pot-bellied pig (S) (T) (359).

**6.00 Cheeze**. Humiliation and bears all round (R) (S) (T) (899).

**5.30 King of the Hill**. End-of-the-world bit for the wonderful entitled suburban purgatory. American Social services show an interest when Bobby is hit by a baseball bat (S) (T) (791).

**7.00 Channel 4 News** (Weather (S) (T) (86799).

**7.50 ALGENTE Daily** (T) (397295).

**8.00 In Your Dream**. The profound alien dreams can have on peoples lives. Narrated by Robert Lindsay (T) (329).

**8.30 Brookside**. What has Collie told the police? Will Peter ever come back to Lindsey? Jacqui is rushed to hospital and questions about the baby (S) (T) (8049).

**9.00 Equinox**. Gravely, one of the first fundamental forces to be discovered, but the least understood, despite the fact that it holds our bodies together and determines the shape of the Earth, what it turns out, it could eventually destroy it as well (T) (8772).

**10.00 FILM Fear** (Rovine S O'Brian 1920 US). Absurd T.M. trailer about a novella with a psychotic doctor who breeds fear into his patients. The film is a comedy about the wife of a serial killer. The comic, *Anyways*, one day she meets women in the hotel and realizes that when confronting a killer who is actually psychic - and knows where she lives. Chilly. Interesting for the lead that it moves that *Any* "hot-pink" Shady can still get love (S) (T) (258865).

**11.45 Riding the Tiger** (R) (T) (27458), 12.45 *The Real World* (R) (S) (35598), 1.45 *Homicide: Life on the Street* (R) (T) (87959), 2.45 *Thru* (R) (2892808).

**2.50 FILM The Third Secret** (Charles Crichton 1964 US). Pope John's death is murdered. But he deserves it! Stephen Boyd tries to find out (254109).

**4.45 Survivors** (8042329).

**5.55 Sesame Street** (F) (S) (123544), to 7am.

**8.00 5 News and Sport** (S) (6/48/79, 7.00) **WideWorld** (S) (1) (7/21/77), 7.30 **Minister** (S) (5/70/68), 7.35 **What a Minute** (S) (5/68/73), 8.00 **Hankazoo** (S) (9/83/57), 8.30 **Dagwood** (S) (9/81/57), 9.00 **The Green** **Radio Game** (R) (1) (5/75/44), 9.25 **Russell** **Postcards** (S) (4/26/74), 9.30 **The Open Whiney Show** (S) (7/80/60), 10.20 **Sunset** (S) (1) (4/74/73), 11.00 **Leesa** (S) (5/83/77), 12.00 5.00 **News at Noon** (S) (1) (9/88/83), 12.30 **Family Affairs** (S) (1) (2/83/77), 1.00 **The Bold and the Beautiful** (S) (1) (7/80/64), 1.30 **Sonny and Daphney** (S) (2/84/78), 2.00 (1) **The Cat** **Gold** (S) (6/82/67), 2.30 **Open House with Gloria Hunniford** (S) (6/82/67).

**7.30 FELD Undercover** (David Stevens 1983 Aves), Aussie rapper designs elastic underwear. Okay comedy (2/83/85).

**5.40 The Open Whiney Show.** Alcoholics repaid. A family previously interviewed come back on after drying themselves out (S) (9/81/58).

**6.00 100 Per Cent** (S) (4/87/06).

**5.30 Family Affairs.** Roy is lurches when he realises Lumbie's not dead. Bankrupt film. Cable leaves for his holiday. (S) (1) (4/81/82).

**7.00 5 News, Including First on Five, With Kim Young** (S) (1) (4/83/83).

**7.30 When the Bison Roams.** The North American bison, which has returned, against all odds, from the brink of extinction. (S) (1) (4/87/06).

**5.00 The Wonderful Life.** The bible who ran Steve McGarrett of *Emergency* power round tell us what a scamp he was (S) (1) (6/82/87).

**8.30 What Went Wrong.** An aircraft that made an unexpected landing, a collision between a petrol tanker and a train and a hotel fire in Las Vegas (S) (9/84/86).

**8.00 FELD Crimes of Passion Voice From the Grave.** David Jackson 1988 US. Silly, unscripted TV-movie thriller. A woman is upset by the murder of a colleague. Son at the wedding. Things start to go bump in the night (S) (1) (2/83/87).

**10.40 Not the Jack Bootherly Show.** Melinda is all crossing her ankles, popping out of her legs and gamely chatting up assorted B-Listers (S) (7/83/83).

**11.20 La Femme Nikita.** Madeline confronts her past (R) (S) (5/82/82).

**12.45 Live and Dangerous.** Sport, sport, sport including American bunnies, Aussie football and Asian bottle (S) (6/88/53), 12.55 **Live and Dangerous** **Continued** (S) (7/88/53), 3.45 **Asian Football Show** (5/72/87), 4.40 **Planner.** Cal Block H (4/87/87), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (4/82/87), to burn.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY SANDRA MAXCSEY

## COOKERY SHOW OF THE DAY

## DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

# FILM OF THE DAY



**THE UPPER CRUST** (Jan 26, 400) Barty's evening programming has to combine at least two of the following to satisfy a British audience: food, gardening, interiors, snobbery, voyeurism and nostalgia. The new strand seems set to combine every single element. Society photographer and amateur journalist Christopher Sykes takes us on a self-portrait tour of British dachshund, filling cockney secrets along the way. Fortunately, he has one of his own to beg the ball rolling. Schemes in Essex forsaken. He returns there to reveal former relations and their grim pile, hot hands in bag and parsley sauce, and blotted cream.

**CAMP BERNIEASE** IS A SECRETIVE HISTORY TROUPE (AND NOT, AS THE name implies, a camp) that has been making a name for itself by pulling together the unsavory cases, hard cases, the full range of the dark side of the American psyche, and recrafting them into a new kind of theater. In *Dead Man's Hand*, a chilling piece of fun degenerated into something scary and chilling, the murder was launched by one Steve Berniece in Los Angeles in 1978, the Chiles rapidly became an international phenomenon, especially after choreographer Rick DeLoach joined in the exploits. Then David was murdered, and Berniece implicated.

**THIS STAYS** (145pm 'C4, *night*) In a day when the schedules are almost entirely dominated by TV movie marathons, it's a relief to see a single giant standee on 'Bea' attracted to an increasingly alcoholic Errol Flynn. Based on a novel by Myron Brinig, it opens with three sisters in for a ball to celebrate Roosevelt's second inauguration and closes with the same ball four years later in welcome contrast. Between the two, all three marry, suffer, and emerge triumphant by the way of Depression dealbreakers. Dais, though, I'm not sure of the more charming of her early performances; look for a more brittle and consistently cheerless turn grilling Leash.

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